

Welcome to Celebration MCC

...tearing down walls...building up hope...creating our future...

November 29, 2009—1st Sunday of Advent

Please silence all cell phones and pagers so that our service is not interrupted. Thank You!

ORDER OF WORSHIP — * Please rise as you are able.***

Announcements	Pastor Rick
Prelude.....	Peter Lewis
**Praise & Worship.....	Video Screen
<i>"Shine" & "No Other Name"</i>	
Prayers of and for the People.....	Pastor Rick
First Lesson.....	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Second Lesson.....	Malachi 3:1
Special Music.....	Maura Fortin
The Message.....	"This is Not a Messiah Complex".....Pastor Bruce Frogge
Giving Our Gifts and Resources/Offertory.....	Peter Lewis
**Doxology.....	Video Screen
Communion.....	<i>(Please refer to the video screen for all parts of the Communion Service.)</i>
**Closing Song.....	"Forever".....Video Screen
**Benediction.....	Pastor Rick
Postlude.....	Peter Lewis

Have a blessed week!

Please join us each Sunday for refreshments and social networking before our service begins and/or following each service.



Board of Directors

Rev. Rick Sosbe,
Moderator
Frank Dowd,
Vice Moderator
David Ramp
Diane Gamble
Michael Mullan,
Clerk
Sue Haubrich,
Treasurer

Ministerial & Support Staff:

Rev. Rick Sosbe,
Pastor
Susan Charron,
Deacon
Peter Lewis,
Pianist
Dolette Alvarado,
Worship Leader

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The Sunday Times

We are pleased to welcome
Rev. Bruce Frogge to our
worship service today.



Rev. Bruce Frogge is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He has served churches in Indiana and Missouri, and is currently the Sr. Minister at First Christian Church of Naples, Florida.

Prior to coming to Naples, Bruce served as the Sr. Minister at Hillside Christian Church in Kansas City, MO, for 13 years. When he arrived, it was a church in decline. With a great leadership team, the church moved from the brink of closure to a strong, growing and mission oriented congregation. It was this turnaround experience that brought Bruce to FCC of Naples. By 2006, the church was considering shutting its doors. It had declined to around 40 in worship. Since Bruce's arrival in October of 2006, the congregation has grown to an average worship attendance of 120.

Though this is a move in the right direction, Bruce often says, "We want to be more than a church that is simply surviving. We could limp into the future, but if we do so, we'll remain irrelevant to a culture in need of direction. Instead, we need to be reenergized with a vision for justice and inclusion that embodies God's grace." Bruce is married to Donna (Alexa), and they have one child, Zachariah. Bruce enjoys running, and he has participated in more than a dozen 1/2 and full marathons across the country.

Rev. Bruce and Pastor Rick have become friends though their work together as committee members of the Coalition of Progressive Religious Voices and working together on Interfaith worship services and other community projects.

<i>Financial Report</i>	<i>YTD thru 11/22/2009 Actual</i>	<i>YTD thru 11/22/2009 Budget</i>	<i>Annual 2009 Budget</i>
General Fund			
Income From:			
Contributions	\$87,388.48	\$94,005.23	\$101,839.00
Other Income	\$8,531.04	\$4,546.15	\$4,925.00
Total Income	\$95,919.52	\$98,551.38	\$106,764.00
Total Expense	\$94,952.44	\$98,551.38	\$106,764.00
Net	\$967.08	\$0.00	\$0.00

Annual Christmas Dinner & Party
THIS COMING Saturday, December 5th at 6:30 PM
At the home of Pastor Rick & Mike—9874 Campbell Circle



Join your church family in celebrating Christmas! Dinner is donated and provided by the Ministry Roundtable! Cost is \$10 per person and includes dinner and one door prize raffle ticket. Additional tickets will be available for purchase! We have some great door prizes! All proceeds will go to the General Fund of the church!

We will also have a white elephant gift exchange. These are NOT gag gifts, but simple gifts at a cost of \$10.00! Participation in the gift exchange is optional! If you'd like to participate in the exchange, simply bring a gift, if you prefer not to participate in the exchange, simply don't bring a gift! Last year's party was a lot of fun...let's make this year's even better! **Please sign the sheet in the foyer if you**

Island Coast AIDS Network (ICAN) Christmas Angel Program



Celebration MCC is participating in the ICAN Christmas Gift Angel Program again this year! Last year was a huge success with our church supporting between 40-50 clients with Christmas gifts. This year the demand is even greater. There are over 70 client cards that have been given to us from ICAN. Unfortunately, there are no other organizations helping ICAN with this program so we are encouraging the family and friends of Celebration MCC to do their very best in adopting as many clients as possible. We'd like to see every client receive a gift. Mike Dias from the Naples ICAN office says, "These people have nothing, anything will be appreciated."

If you are able to help by purchasing a gift or gifts this year, please see Jennifer Varone to select your client(s). If you prefer not to shop, but to donate money, Jennifer will gladly do the shopping for you!

This is one of our major outreach opportunities each year and we are thankful for this chance to reach out into the community. All gifts should be brought to the church on Sunday, December 19th. The gifts should be wrapped with the client number and client name on the gift. Please do not bring gifts earlier than December 19th unless you have made arrangements with someone to store them for you until the 19th! Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Christmas Cards are available! This is a fundraiser sponsored by the Ministry Roundtable. The cards were designed by our own church folks! You may purchase cards to send and you may sign out additional packages to sell to others! Cost is \$5.00/packet of 10 cards.

Reminder: Loaves and Fishes Sunday and Benevolence Sunday is the first Sunday of each month. We ask you to bring non perishable food items and toiletries for the ICAN food pantry and to give \$1 toward the Celebration MCC benevolence fund which helps those in need.

REMINDER: The first Sunday of every month we will celebrate worship with a more liturgical style! Robes will be worn, hymns will be sung with a little contemporary included for good measure! Please join us next week for this style of worship!

MONDAY NIGHT SUPPER CLUB

Join us for food and fun at Bambusa every Monday evening at 6:30. Casual, informal, and no commitment; join us whenever you like! This is a terrific opportunity to socialize, have fun, and meet new people.



Birthdays & Anniversaries November & December

Jennifer Varone-Nov 4 (bd); Chuck Sowder & Joseph Horn-Nov 11 (anv); Chuck Sowder-Nov 15 (bd); Diane Gamble & Tammy Loux-Nov 15 (anv); Ingrid Parry-Nov 22 (bd); David Potter-Nov 30 (bd); Pastor Rick & Mike-Dec 10 (anv); Bill Haubrich-Dec 18 (bd); Perry Horne-Dec 27 (bd); David Ramp & Jack Walker-Dec 28 (anv)

Facility Update and Congregational Meeting

—During our congregational meeting in October, the voting membership of Celebration MCC voted to pursue securing our own worship space! Since our letter of intent for the former The Back Store has not been accepted, we have located another space on Trade Center Way. The property has been previewed by members of the Building Search Committee and members of the Board of Directors. It was decided to move forward with this space. Negotiations will take place and once terms are decided we will hold a congregational meeting. Because our bylaws require two weeks notice to members for congregational meetings, we will hold a congregational meeting on December 13th following our worship service (approximately 6:30 PM). Please make every effort to attend this meeting! Due to timing, we will also schedule a congregational meeting on Dec 20th which may be cancelled if not needed.

FROM THE SWFL GAY AND LESBIAN CHORUS: A Holiday Celebration in Song! The SWFL Gay and Lesbian Chorus will be joyfully celebrating the holiday season with three wonderful concerts (please see their web site for all concert dates)! Join the concert with beautiful, festive and newly written choral pieces along with some traditional ones we will all love!

The Chorus will be helping spread the holiday cheer by donating \$1.00 of each ticket sales to support local food banks for our friends and families in need. In addition, the chorus is excited to be accepting credit cards for concert tickets, raffle items and donations (except American Express cards).

Our chorus is very excited to be returning to Naples for it's third concert of the season on Sunday, Dec. 13th, at 7:00 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church 6340 Napa Woods Way. Join your friends and come celebrate with our festive music for only \$15.00.

For more information please call 239-691-2532, visit the website at www.gaychorus.org, or email the chorus at swflgaychorus@aol.com.

Celebration MCC Mission Statement:

We celebrate God's love by offering a safe and welcoming place of worship for ALL in a diverse, Christ-centered congregation, growing out of the LGBT community.