

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1126 East Silver Springs, Ocala FL
Dr. Wayne Earnest, Director of Music & Organist

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CONCERTS WITH A CAUSE are “benefit concerts” in which admission is free but at intermission a free-will offering is taken to benefit various organizations supported by our church’s Missions Committee. There are four “returns on the investment” with such a concert series. (1) Musical Enrichment for church and community. (2) Missions: Helping people in need via the offerings taken at intermission. (3) Public Awareness of our church via publicity for the concerts. (4) Evangelism: Sometimes a visitor’s first encounter with our church is not worship but rather a concert. Information about our church is provided in the printed concert programs. Mark your calendars now so you won’t miss them!!!

Friday, February 29, 2008 at 7:00 PM by the **TOUR CHOIR** from **LYCOMING COLLEGE** (a Methodist school in Williamsport PA) in a program of music ranging from classical to popular to spirituals. The Tour Choir has been widely acclaimed as one of the finest college choirs in the East and has toured in Germany, the Czech Republic, and Hungary and in such prestigious venues as Washington National Cathedral, the Crystal Cathedral outside Los Angeles, and St. John-the-Divine and St. Patrick’s cathedrals, both in NYC. They have sung with the Gregg Smith Singers, the Chieftains, Barry Manilow and have twice been featured in the Holiday Celebrations at the White House. **BENEFIT: Habitat for Humanity.**

Sunday, April 20, 2008 at 3:00 PM by **JAN JENNINGS, Harpist** If you attended the 8:30 or 11:00 worship services on Dec. 9, 2007, you remember how beautifully the Ms. Jennings played – so beautifully that we invited her to play a concert! She has a wonderful program planned that will begin with classical repertoire followed a section of “requests” and popular music – accompanied by “verbal program notes” explaining the music and how the harp works! As a “full-time harpist,” Jan Jennings has been the featured artist at prestigious venues in both USA and Europe, is a past first prize winner of the Lyon & Healy International Pop & Jazz Harp competition, and has written two instructional books, *The Harpist’s Complete Wedding Guidebook* and *Effortless Glissing*. She has held various positions in professional harp organizations and has been recognized in national harp magazines, has made five recordings, and has had musical arrangements published. **BENEFIT: Children’s Home.**

Sunday, October 19, 2008 at 3:00 PM by **CHRISTOPH KELLER, Organist** from Germany as part of **The International Organ Celebration, 2008-2009**. The national headquarters of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) in NYC will launch The International Organ Celebration with their National Convention in Minneapolis this summer and October 19 has been designated as the official date for the Organ Spectacular concert – when organ concerts will take place all around the globe as a means of promoting interest and awareness in and appreciation for the “King of Instruments.” By the way, did you know the organ was invented in Alexandria, Egypt around the year 250 B.C. by Ktesibios [Ctesibios]? Christoph Keller studied organ at the music conservatories in Saarbruecken and Karlsruhe as well as in Paris and has taken advanced studies with renowned organ teachers such as Lohmann, Ruebsam, Roth, and Guillou. He has made a dual career as both a church musician and a concert organist. In addition to standard repertoire by Bach, Franck, Vierne, he also seeks out unknown gems of repertoire. **BENEFIT: tbd**

