

# First United Church of Christ of Orlando

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*Rev. Joel A. Reif*

October 19, 2009

The cooler weather has finally arrived. I have to say that I really enjoy it. This is the time of year that it is delightful to live in Florida. It is supposed to get a little warmer this week, but it looks like we are finished with the 90's.

This past week turned out to be fairly busy with all kinds of things happening. Monday morning I was in the office and had a number of things that I needed to get done. That afternoon Cindy and I went over to Lakeland to see my mother. There were some legal matters that had to be taken care of, so we had a meeting with the attorney. We had also not seen mom in a while, so we had a nice visit. Tuesday morning I was back at the office again and then that afternoon I had a couple of people to see and then finished up back at the office. That evening we had a meeting of the finance committee and worked on the budget for 2010. We hope to have it finished in the next few weeks. Wednesday morning was the usual with the Mary Martha's here and the thrift shop open. There were lots of people in and out, so it was a full morning. That afternoon I had a couple of things to finish at the office. Thursday morning I was in the office and had a couple of people to see. That afternoon I spent some time trying to finish my sermon for Sunday. That evening we had a meeting of the Church Council. Friday morning Cindy and I had planned to go to Biketoberfest in Daytona Beach. They kept predicting rain, but finally we just decided to go anyway. We had a great time and did not get rained on, so we were glad we went. Saturday morning I was in the office and then had a funeral that afternoon. That evening I put the final touches on my sermon for Sunday. Sunday we had a nice crowd in church. Cindy and I went back to Daytona that afternoon to spend more time at Biketoberfest. It was fun again and the ride was very enjoyable.

This week I am busy getting a number of things finished and Cindy and I are going to take a week of vacation. Not sure what we will be doing yet, but it will be nice to get away. I will be back to preach on November 1<sup>st</sup> and then I leave for Chicago on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am going on what is called the Father's trip with the Chicago Blackhawks. My son works for them and they are bringing the fathers of the staff and players in for a week on the road with their sons. I am really looking forward to that. I am sure that I will have lots to share with you when I return.

I hope all is well with you. Well, I guess I better close for now. Until next time, take care and God bless.

Sincerely,

Rev. Joel A. Reif