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August 2013

Port Orange
United Church of Christ
651 Taylor Road
Port Orange, FL 32127
Office 386-788-0920
Fax 386-788-8255
Email: uccpo@bellsouth.net
Website: portorangeucc.org

SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

While I am very pleased we are receiving new members and our summer attendance has held strong, I am increasingly aware of the changing demographics and allegiances in our society with reference to church involvement and participation. Our Area Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Raymond Hargrove, recently shared the results of a Pew Study (completed in October of 2012). Their web site is:

www.pewresearch.org/about/. The study documented that one in five Americans has no religious affiliation and that ratio grows to one in three under the age of 30 – groups pejoratively labeled as the

“*Religious Nones*” – because they check that box labeled “none” on surveys. A recent New England Synod of Lutheran churches invited “nones” to the churches to come and sit on a panel so leaders could better understand (since a reported 75% of New Englanders do not belong to a faith community). One panelist expressed the following: “I’m not missing something,” she said. “I don’t want you to see me as lacking. I’m perfectly fine without religion.” Some general themes heard from the panel:

- A perception that Church is an unsafe space for doubt and questioning.
- A deep desire for authenticity and inclusivity - named a fear of “being put in a box.”
- A fear of being ‘an impostor’ - not wanting to do things they didn’t believe in.
- Experiences of feeling overwhelmed by traditional worship. Multiple panelists spoke of feeling lost, unsure when to sit and stand, and intimidated by dress codes and creeds. Panelists found an easier point of entry with a smaller, Saturday evening service.
- A number of the panelists, though not all, had some religious background. For these people, late teens and early twenties was a time of questioning and ultimately, leaving religion.

A deep commitment to big ideas and values. The panelists had thought a lot about how they wanted to move through the world, how they wanted to live ethically, how they wanted to change their community. They just didn’t feel the need to do it within the bounds of a religious community.

The next day, Bishop Hazlewood challenged the Lutheran pastors to spend 25% of their time talking and listening to people *outside* their church (a theme the current Pope is also pushing). And he offered to go meet with any church council that balked at this re-allocation of the pastor’s time. That got me wondering - what if 25% of our time gathered thinking about the future of the Church was with people from *outside* the Church? We are a wonderful group of followers of Christ. We are privileged to seek out and develop new followers of Christ – not members of a religious organization. We are the United Church of Christ – let’s keep acting like it. We just need to keep on looking up and reaching out!

Blessings,

Pastor Bill

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Staff

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Dr. Bill Wassner
Assistant Pastor:
Beverly Schafer
Pastor Emeritus:
Rev. Dr. Bill Ebbert
Office Manager:
Kathy Shaffner
Minister of Music:
Dr. Tom Naus
Media Communications:
Bob Brewster

ASSISTANT PASTOR



This year's 4th of July was celebrated locally in its usual manner with picnics, fun at the beach and fireworks galore. During our Sunday morning church service that holiday weekend, we included our Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, and patriotic songs and hymns which several of you commented on thoroughly enjoying. The following Saturday evening, crowds who had gathered in front of the courthouse in a neighboring community just a few miles west of us exercised their Constitutional right of freedom of speech as they peacefully demonstrated their objection to or support of the jury's decision.

The following morning, we learned that protesters in California were not as peaceful as those in Sanford, but it appears that the aggressive measures taken in California soon quieted down. I cannot help but believe that those in California realized they needed to honor and mirror the more dignified approach of protesters in Sanford. As higher profile individuals become more involved, may their actions and leadership be honorable in seeking resolution.

In the words of a favorite contemporary hymn: Lord, "COME HEAL THIS LAND."

Prayerfully,

Pastor Beverly

OPERATIONS TEAM



No major project for the Operations Team to report on—which is a good thing. Just a couple of notes:

1. After thirty years of use, the motor in the Sanctuary air conditioning unit was replaced.
2. Due to the high winds and rain a few weeks ago, the Century Plant at the rear East Exit, that was almost ready to bloom, snapped off and it was decided to remove the entire plant as well as the smaller plants located throughout the property.

Our next Operations Meeting will be on **Monday, September 9th at 6:30 PM.**

Tim Holby, Chair of Operations



Financial Update

Operational Budget as of 1/26/13

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Jan.-June 2013</u>	<u>Jan.-June 2013</u>
Income	\$92,975	\$87,650
Expenses	\$92,378	\$82,554
Net	\$ 597	\$ 5,096

We have recovered from the "in the red" status last month and are once again in the black. We should continue to do well barring any unforeseen expenses. Thanks to everyone for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted by Susie Greiff, Treasurer

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM



THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1ST

Between Services

Reid Hughes is still leading current event discussions in the Nursery for all Youth interested. Our Adult Class is growing in size, and continues to meet regularly in the Sanctuary.

Following Youth Message in Late Service

Miss Beverly will meet with Elementary School children (Skylar Davis, Madison Hobson) in Classroom #2.



BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 8TH (UNTIL CONFIRMATION STARTS)

Elementary School (Classroom #2 with Miss Beverly)

(Following Youth Sermon in Late Service only as there are no children in this age group between services) Skylar Davis, Madison Hobson

New Classes

Middle School (Nursery with Mr. Reid and Miss Beverly)

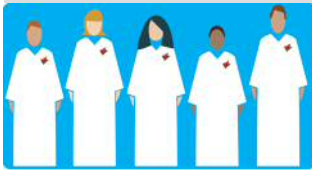
Payton Bryan, Aydan & Blake Buller, Colten Pack, Van Thompson

High School (Classroom #1 - Teacher yet to be named)

Hunter Bryan, Elijah Buller, Dallas Davis, Travis & Tyler Dotson, Trey Thompson, Kaylei Wierzbicki

Adults (Sanctuary with Erika Henderson until Kay Russell returns in October)

CONFIRMATION



CONFIRMATION MEETING

We are offering an invitation to parents of youth from 11 years of age and up to be a part of the 2013-2014 Confirmation Class - culminating in baptism (if they have not been baptized) and joining our church by Confession of Faith. The class will meet approximately every two weeks from mid October through Graduation on Pentecost Sunday on June 8th, 2014 (with time scheduled off for the Christmas holidays and for Spring Break). The classes will be held on Sunday mornings

between services in my office. There will be an important **informational pizza luncheon meeting regarding Confirmation on Sunday August 25th, 2013 following the second worship service at approximately 12:00 noon.** Parents and potential students are invited to enjoy lunch after church while we discuss our program and answer questions. **Please confirm your presence with the number attending the pizza luncheon on August 25th ASAP by calling the Church Office (788-0920).**

DEACONS CORNER



The Ministry of Deacons

From traveling all over the western US this last month, I was at the west rim of the Grand Canyon and I was in awe of the beauty and depth that which God puts things together for us. It was an awesome experience for the entire family. I found myself reflecting on the fact that there is more to do in this day and life for people in need of seeing what is good and beautiful about this world our God has created for us.

I feel we can make a difference. Even if it is a little one, it may grow into something positive the size of the Grand Canyon. Well it could happen, but there has to be a starting point and it has to be a personal decision to move your eyes so that some one else can see the glory too. They are out there; sometimes its our sisters or brothers, sometimes a stranger, a kind word or a child. I just think we may want to focus on our fellow man. Jesus said "Your neighbor as yourself". As always, please feel free to contact any deacon with any concerns and may the Lord bless you always. *Joe Thompson, Chair of the Deacons*

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE



The Gift & Thrift Store is in need of your donations, especially kitchenware, utensils and pots & pans. Your donations help us to continue to help others and the Church. Total year to date sales through July are \$13,943.50. *Barb Pountain*

MISSIONS TEAM



The Missions Team wishes to thank all who contributed to the Military Collection (See Page #7 for details). As always, you have generously answered the call assuring that we have greatly helped those brave men and women who serve and protect our freedom.

We are still in need of volunteers to help with Palmetto House. If you are able to give time one Wednesday evening a month to help those less fortunate, please contact me or any member of the Missions Team. Also, remember the Mission Boxes (donations of \$13.20 this month benefits Sophie' Choice) as well as the Sock Box located in the Sanctuary. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Jackie Gaither, Chair of Missions

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS NOTES

We continue to collect food items to donate to the Episcopal Help Center. **Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday.** Over 34 bags of food were donated on the first Sunday last month. If we all bring a food donation, we will fill the basket each month. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates (clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers). There is a specific need for rice and peanut butter...PLEASE donate ONLY 1 pound bags of rice and 1 pound jars of peanut butter so they can be given to individual families. **August 4th is our next collection!**



YOUTH NEWS



Terrific Tuesdays

Join us for what looks like a fun August. **YOUTH GROUP OVERNIGHT LOCK-IN** for Middle School and Senior High Youth. **Starts with 6:00 PM dinner August 9th; ends 10:00 AM August 10th.** Movies, popcorn, snacks, games and breakfast also included. **Sign up (sheet on Sanctuary bulletin board) ASAP so we'll know how many to prepare for.** We'll finish up the summer the following **Tuesday, August 13th,** with a round of golf at **Pirate Island beginning at 6:00 PM.** A schedule of our fall meetings will be forthcoming.



SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm, POUCC has a wonderful Fellowship Dinner in the Jim Reed room. If you have attended, you already know that we EAT, TALK, LAUGH, SING and ENJOY each other's company.

*Make your plans to come to the next dinner Thursday August 8th.
Theme: Wing Night - Barbequed Chicken Wings Provided!
Sign-up on Sanctuary Bulletin Board.*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Schedule for the Fellowship Hour is as follows:

August - Teaching
September - Operations
October - Thrift Store



NOTES OF THANKS & INTEREST



We recently received a note from the Pregnancy Crisis Center thanking us for our recent donations of infant clothing. Also, Halifax Urban Ministries was very grateful for the \$100 gift we sent them. In their note, they stated that our gift helps to feed over 300 homeless people daily. Copies of these notes are posted on the Sanctuary bulletin board.

I want to thank everyone for your prayer and support during my illness. My prayer shawl means the world to me and it will keep me warm during my treatments. *Mary Ann Sumners*

Also, Patty Stoner recently sent us a note thanking us for her beautiful prayer shawl and all the powerful, wonderful prayers.



I want to thank my church family for all their assistance in helping me cleanout and pack-up my house. This was a very demanding week and I appreciate your love and support. I am settling in and very happy to be at Bishops Glen. *Betty Heffner*



Lisa and I want to thank everyone for your expressions of sympathy upon the loss of our great-niece Amber Wallace. We truly appreciate your cards, prayers and support. *Pastor Bill*

HELP NEEDED: Thanks to Russ Karel who keeps our grounds looking so beautiful, but he is in need of help. If you can give an hour or two a week to help with the weeding and trimming, please give Russ a call at 761-1927.



Congratulations to Terri Zinke who passed the state exam for Massage Therapist on June 29th. *Best of luck in your new career Terri!*

PORT ORANGE MUSIC ACADEMY: Will hold a start-up meeting on *Tuesday, August 27th, 6:30 PM* in the Sanctuary. All interested youth and parents should plan to attend.



NEWS & Notes



1st Annual Bernie Hunt Cubs Outing: On Saturday, July 13th, 30 members of the congregation braved the weather to see the Daytona Cubs take two games from the Jupiter Hammerheads winning the first game (make-up game from Friday's rain-out) 8-0 and they went on to win the second game 2-0. The evening was capped off with a spectacular fireworks show and although it was a long, sometimes wet evening it was a great time!



PRAYER GARDEN MEMORIAL BRICKS: We would invite any members of the congregation interested in ordering a brick in memory of or in honor of a loved one to contact the Church Office. The cost is \$35.00 which includes a 4x8x2 1/4" brick, engraving and shipping. We are planning to place our brick order in September.



CONNECTING LIVES IN CHANGING TIMES: *October 18-20, 2013* at the Camp Weed & Cerveney Conference Center in Live Oaks, FL. Keynote Speaker: Rev. Sandra Gourdet, UCC Area Executive for Africa, Partner Relations Ministry Team, Wilder Church Ministries. For more information contact Jeanette Campbell at 788-4959 or see flyer on bulletin board. **Deadline for registration is Sunday, September 15th.**

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UCC FALL MEETING: *Saturday, November 9th, Embassy Suites Hotel, 4955 Kings Heath Rod, Kissimmee, FL.* Leading us in the exploration of the theme "BEHOLD", will be Rev. Ron Buford. Mark your calendars and watch for more information .



ON THE GO: Colten Pack participated in the Model Talent Expo in Dallas from 6/18-6/23. It was an amazing and wonderful experience. He registered on the 18th and got right to work with the Acting Coaches and the Runway Coach.

On the 19th he worked with the coaches again then went to the mandatory meeting. That night there was an Oscar Party with lots of dancing and meeting people. Delana was able to go to the party and do some dancing too.

The 20th was a very busy day filled with meetings, workshops with the coaches, getting the portfolio in order and auditions.

On the 21st, it was non-stop between meetings, workshops and auditions. Needless to say, Colten was very tired at this point. Saturday the 22nd was a very big and exciting day. There were more auditions and Colten was met and talked with the agents and was able to get some really good feedback from them.

Closing Ceremonies were on Sunday and he said his goodbyes to people he had met and thanked those who had invited him there. He was finally able to go in the pool!! Colten worked very hard while at the Expo and gained a lot of knowledge. He has said he would like to go again in the future but maybe not for a couple of years. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to everyone for your support. It was truly appreciated. Love to all and God Bless. -*The Pack Family*



WEST PROPERTY UPDATE



Because of current Port Orange building codes, there was a need to recalculate additional concrete and reinforcements before moving ahead and applying for the permit from the City. Since this increased the cost of the project, we are asking for a few more members of the congregation to step-up and contribute to close the gap. We will be breaking ground for the pavilion in the next few weeks with completion by the end of the September. We are most grateful to the most recent donors, listed below, for their generosity and our total to date is \$11,385.

Joan Brown

Jackie Clough - In Memory of Roscoe "Rock" Clough

Louise Johnson

Drew Knock

Terry McCormack

The Pack Family - In Honor of Deb Pack for 22 years of Military Service

SPECIAL OFFERING



ANNUAL MILITARY COLLECTION: Thanks to all who donated items for care packages to be shipped to our troops overseas. The collection will continue through this **Sunday, August 4th**. To date, we have collected cases of hairspray, toothpaste, deodorant, scalp therapy and more than 30 bags of assorted toiletries and snacks. If you haven't already donated, please make it a point to help our service men and women who protect our freedoms.



We recently received Bob McLaughlin's new address in St. Louis: Bob McLaughlin, Sunrise Assisted Living of DesPers, Room #231, 13460 Manchester Road, St. Louis, MO 36131. I'm sure it would brighten his day to hear from his church family.

Happy Birthday!



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS*

Harold Kransi	8/1
Eva Brewster	8/5
Skylar Davis	8/7
Blanche Northcutt	8/8
Doreen Wheeler	
Sherian Buller	
Rusty Ashley	
Janna Thompson	8/9
Harry Scharadin	8/10
Bill Nicholls	
Joe Rogers	8/17
Joanne Flatt	8/19
Elaine Johnson	
Carol Strickland	8/21
Joellen Hopkins	8/22
Mac McDonald	8/24
Jeannie Taylor	8/27
Dr. Tom Naus	8/29

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES*

Joe & Carol Rogers	8/5/1966
Joe & Janna Thompson	8/17/1990
Tom & Mary Ann Sumners	8/26/1989



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Bernard (Rusty) Ashley	Member of POUCC
Sue Batturs	Member of POUCC
Al Boegele	Uncle of Doreen Wheeler
F/F of Joan Brown	In Loss of her Brother Robert Busch
Dee Carroll	Mother of Sher Buller
Thea Cloutier	Member of POUCC
Michael Dotson	Son of Bobby & Kimberly Dotson
John DuBrule	Son of Linda DuBrule
Karen Donahue	Sister of Harold Kransi
Amelia Dyer	Friend of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Tyler Graf	Grandson of John & Anne Shaw
Kate Gustomachio	Friend of the Campbells
Scott & Emily Hill	Nephew of Val Hill and his wife who are both missionaries
Nancy Hosford	Bill Wheeler's Sister
Robert Houghman	Friend of the Greiff's
Bob Horn	Friend of Sue Batturs
Cecilia Kearney	Friend of Jeanette Campbell
F/F of Bernie & Leah Anna Kelly	Friends of Thompsons killed in a helicopter accident
Gloria Kirlin	Mother-in-Law of Diane & Scott Kirlin
F/F of Tom Lewis	Jackie Clough's Cousin
Helen McGuffie	Member of POUCC
Art McPhearson	Friend of the Gaither's
Shelby Painter	Granddaughter of Sue & Jim Turner
Jill Park	Friend of the Deitch's
Kay Russell	Member of POUCC
Harry Scharadin	Member of POUCC
Kay Schweitzer	Member of POUCC
Steve Sharp	Friend of the Grieff's
Mary Ann Stewart	Member of POUCC
Larry & Carol Strickland	Members of POUCC
Mary Ann Sumners	Member of POUCC
Nilene Tromley	Stepmother of Cassie & Sara
Walker Family	Sister of Doreen Wheeler
F/F of Amber Wallace	Great-Niece of Pastor Bill
F/F of Billy Wiggins	In Loss of Brothers

In Care Facilities:

Mary Daigneau	Member of POUCC (The Terraces)
Robert McLaughlin	Member Relocated to St. Louis
Rosemary Smith	Member (Sterling House)

Special Needs:

All of Our Military & Their Families

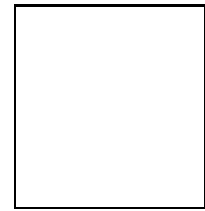
Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date.

POUCC August 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	5	6	7 CPT 7:00 pm	8 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	9 Terrific Tuesday Movie Lock-In 6:00 PM	10
11 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	12	13 Terrific Tuesday Putt-Putt Golf 6:00 PM	14 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 7:00 pm	15 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	16	17
18 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	19	20	21 CPT 7:00 pm	22 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	23	24
25 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am Confirmation Meeting. 12:00 pm	26	27 POMA Start-Up Meeting 6:30 pm	28 CPT 7:00 pm	29	30	31

*Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm
 Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services*

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Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bill Wassner
Assistant Pastor : Beverly Schafer
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
Minister of Music: Dr. Tom Naus
Media Communications: Bob Brewster

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Sunday Worship

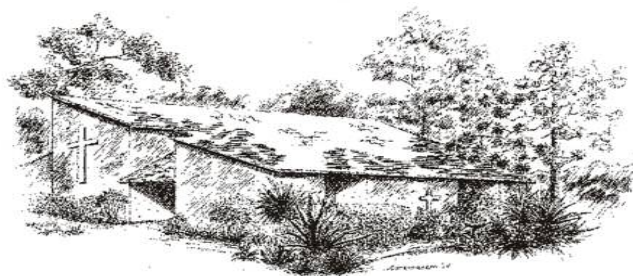
8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School

9:45 AM

Tuesday Youth Worship

7:00 PM



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