

THE WAVE

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JUNE 2003

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A Change in Where the Money Goes

I am excited to announce that beginning June 1 we'll be apportioning our general offering this way:

10% to missions

10% to a building/property acquisition fund

80% to current expenses

Until now undesignated funds have been used in meeting budgeted expenses with a relatively small amount set aside for mission beyond the local church. While much of what we seek to do is in mission to our community (remember "show love" and "go and make disciples" from our mission statement?) I and your other leaders believe that we would do well to focus a substantial portion of our resources beyond ourselves. This will enable us to show love beyond our backyard and to go and make disciples in other corners of the globe.

Just as I counsel families to set aside "a tithe" (10%) for God, I also counsel them to save for future needs. One such need for our church family will likely be property that we own. (Our present, very fine facility is leased.) That's the purpose for setting aside another 10% of undesignated giving as savings for building or acquiring property.

If you are led to make a special gift to either the building fund or missions, you are welcome to do so. Simply designate your gift accordingly. Another option for designated giving is our **Enhancement Fund**, which will be used for facility improvement and capital expenditures. These monies will be used for such purposes as redecorating the altar area in anticipation of mounting the recently purchased cross, replacing our keyboard in the event its broken key can't be repaired, etc.

The leaders I mentioned above are the members of the Transition Team (so named for leading us through the transition from new church launch to chartering). The team members are Pastor **Jeff Bennett, Cheryl Bradford, Sherrill Brown, Kyle Hancock, John McEvoy, Brady Rackley** and **Carol Zur**.

-Pastor Jeff

Arts Conference Update...A Big Thank You!

To all those who have donated so generously to the Arts Conference fund.

We have raised approximately \$1,400 of the \$4,800 needed. This is a life changing, church changing conference and you can sow a seed into the ministry, it's not too late to make a donation. Please, drop your gift designated "Arts Conference" in the offering plate or by the office this week. You can make a kingdom impact!

Blessings,

Carol Zur

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

- *to know Jesus*
- *to grow disciples*
- *to show love*
- *to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ*



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist Church

The Summer Institute

We're offering three special small group opportunities for study on Wednesday nights, 7pm-8pm this summer beginning June 4. Interested? Call the church office to register. Childcare available through Grade 5.

My Identity in Christ (7 weeks)

Leading believers to become mature followers of Christ is at the heart of the church's discipleship ministry. Becoming a Christian means receiving a new identity in Christ and living a life that portrays Christlikeness. Study this exciting, transformational process in this resource from Gene Wilkes, Senior Pastor at Legacy Drive church in Plano, Texas. **David Kraft**, leader.

Network: The Right People... In the Right Places... ...For the Right Reasons (8 weeks)

A dynamic program to help Christians understand who God has uniquely made them to be and mobilize them to a place of meaningful service in the local church. Participants learn the nature and purpose of the church as the body of Christ and the unique importance of each member's contribution. A Willow Creek resource. **Jill Bennett**, leader.

Your Church Experiencing God Together (9 weeks)

In order to be effective Christians, it is necessary to invest our lives in ministry through the local church. This study addresses many thought-provoking and challenging questions, like: "What does it mean to be born into the family of God?" and "How can God use our lives to touch a world in need of salvation?" A natural follow-up to the best seller *Experiencing God*. **Diane Lee**, leader.

Vacation Bible School

June 23-27, 2003

9:00am - 12:00am

Open to all K-5th graders

You may register Sunday mornings or by calling Denese in the church office at 280-5141.

For those of you who have volunteered, THANK YOU! But we still need your help!

Lighthouse Kids Shining God's Light is the theme for this year's Vacation Bible School. We want to decorate our worship space around the Lighthouse theme. Do you have any of the following items that we could borrow for the week of June 22? We are looking for Life Preservers, Lanterns, Nautical Flags, Oars, Fisherman Nets, a Ship's Wheel, and any other items that might go along with this theme.

Still Wanted!

Prayers—pray for the children, parents & volunteers
Volunteers to coordinate snacks each morning.
Clear plastic lids from Pringles and/or yogurt cups. (Bring to church office)
Volunteers to help set-up for VBS on Sunday afternoon, June 22.
Volunteers to help register children Monday morning, June 23.



**Lighthouse
Kids**
Shining God's Light

If you are interested in volunteering or have items we can borrow for the week, please call **Jill Bennett** at 285-2134.

Single Again

The first Single Again meeting was well attended and a great success! This group is for those who are divorced or widowed and meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm. Join us this month, June 3rd. The guest speaker will be our own **Dr. Gary Proctor** speaking on Blues or Depression. If you would like more information about this group contact **Nancy Nelson** by e-mail at singleagainpyb@aol.com Come join us!

BEAM Bags

Thank you everyone for participating in the Brown Bag mission for BEAM. We were able to collect and deliver over 150 bags of groceries to the Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry. They were very appreciative of our efforts. GREAT JOB!

Attendance & Giving

May			
	Contemporary	Traditional	Giving
5/4	82	78	\$ 5,644
5/11	79	98	5,644
5/18	77	73	2,835
5/25	95	94	30,328
May Avg	83	86	\$11,112
Sunday School (avg. weekly)	55		
Avg. weekly giving YTD			\$ 6,949
Needed weekly			
(after "new church" support)			
\$ 5,114			
Needed weekly			
(before "new church" support)			
\$ 12,548			

Pastor's Picks

God blessed us with a Trustee last month. **John McEvoy** will be overseeing matters relating to our church building and the parsonage. First on his list of tasks is the remodeling of the altar area but there are other things as well. If you're a trusty person and have some wisdom when it comes to buildings, call me or John directly at 280-4678.

Last month I called on people to take digital photos of members and friends of our growing congregation. **Christie Crowe** has stepped forward to be the Olan Mills of PVUMC. (Thanks, Christie.) I don't think she should shoot alone; she needs backup. Are there others of you willing to take pictures before or after one of the services? Use your own digital camera or ours. Remember, the purpose is just to have a "face book" around the office for when we can't put a face to the name or vice versa. Call me! 280-5141.

- Pastor Jeff

Ladies Luncheon Simply Lovely



Forty-five of our ladies attended the luncheon wearing their loveliest hats. We were able to raise over \$2,000 to obtain some of the outstanding items needed for the parsonage and kitchen. Thank you to all those who participated and made this a fun and successful afternoon!

St. Johns Youth Detention Center Ministry

A group of seven launched our ministry at the Detention Center on Saturday, May 24th. This is a much needed outreach to the troubled youth in our county. We will be going every 4th Saturday, the time commitment is from 8:30 till about noon. Our next visit will be June 28th. If you have questions or are interested in giving this ministry a try, call **Cheryl Bradford** at 992-0196 or e-mail clbrad@comcast.net.

July is Children's Mission Month

Calling all kids! July is Mission Month and we need you to help us reach out to those in our community in need. Each Wednesday, starting July 9th, we will meet from 9:30-11:30am to work on different projects that will all help teach the importance of helping others. Please join us each week for fun and fellowship!

KID'S KORNER

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

I was recently reading about David's Mighty Men in my *Life Journal* readings. They were the thirty chief men who stood with King David. Some of their exploits are recounted in 2 Samuel 23. Eleazar stood his ground against the Philistines even while the Israelites retreated; he "struck down the Philistines till his hand grew tired and froze to the sword." On another occasion the Philistines banded together and Israel's troops fled from them. Shammah, another of the mighty men, took his stand, defended the land and struck the Philistines down. In each account the Bible says, "The LORD brought about a great victory that day."

How does one become a mighty man or woman through whom God brings great victory? We often talk about the personal benefits of daily Bible reading and of participating in a small group Bible study. (Remember "to know" and "to grow" from our mission statement?) But these are also means by which God prepares us to be used by him to advance his Kingdom. Every time God uses you in bringing someone to faith in Christ, or in taking another step forward in their discipleship, you are being a mighty man or woman of God and it can be said, "The LORD brought about a great victory that day." Every time you show love, the darkness is turned back and a victory is won. Our knowing and growing changes us into mighty men and women who show love and go and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

May the Lord bring about a great victory this day through you.

- Pastor Jeff

P.S. *Life Journals*, a way to faithfully read and reflect on the Bible, are available at the information desk. And it's not too late to sign up for a small group through our Summer Institute.



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