

THE WAVE

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2004

40 DAYS OF PURPOSE

A PURPOSE-DRIVEN LIFE CAMPAIGN

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Kid's Korner	3
On A Musical Note	3
Attendance & Giving	3
Note from Pastor Jeff	4

40 Days of Purpose

September 25th our church family begins a shared experience of personal spiritual growth through a program named 40 Days of Purpose. It begins with a church-wide cookout on Saturday the 25th at 6pm, followed by an inspirational video simulcast at 7. Each Sunday worship service will focus on a theme of the program, culminating in a day of celebration November 7th. This promises to be a thrilling time in the life of our church, a time to invite unconnected people to a small group where they can join us in pursuing an answer to the question, What on earth am I here for? Along with the Bible we'll be using the best selling book "The Purpose Driven Life" to guide us in our quest.

People in over 20 small groups will learn together about worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and evangelism. In addition to what we'll learn, participation in a small group is a wonderful way to get to know folks in the church and to introduce newcomers to caring, concerned people. You can sign up for a time that suits you through the weekly bulletin insert in September. Let's be praying for the many leaders, teachers and other servants involved in bringing us 40 Days of Purpose.

When you consider that in your lifetime you will spend 21 years sleeping, 5 years waiting in line, and 3 years in meetings, spending 40 days to discover God's purpose for your life is a good and positive investment of your time. Don't miss this life changing adventure in finding YOUR purpose!

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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



Crown Is Coming!

Find out what the Bible teaches about money and possessions and learn to apply it to your life. The 10-week Crown small group study will meet Sundays from 4-6pm beginning September 19, led by **Ralph & Sadie Snyder**. Expect to invest 2 hours weekly in addition to the small group time. Sign up by September 9 so you'll have time to prepare for the first session. Call the church office (280-5141) to register; for more information contact Sadie (W: 798-7280, H: 904 819-0011).

Upcoming Messages

September 5 **God and Work: What's the Connection?**

September 12 **PVUMC: Our Story**

September 19 *A 40 Days "Prequel"*—Rev. Orrin Hall, preaching

September 26 **What on Earth Am I Here For?**

Register to Vote

If you are a resident of St. Johns or Duval County you can register to vote Sunday, September 5, right here at PVUMC. Simply bring along your Driver License or other photo id with present address. In addition to registering you may change your address, party affiliation or apply for an absentee ballot.

If you don't vote you are forfeiting your voice in our democracy. Your vote matters. "When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan." –Proverbs 29:2

Our thanks to volunteer Betty Heindl who will serve us Sunday the 5th.

Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry (BEAM)

We received a beautiful thank you from Karen Wolfson of "Back to School with BEAM" for opening our church to the community in July to receive donations. 989 children were served through new and used clothing, school supplies and nearly \$20,000 in cash donations which was distributed through vouchers for shoes, etc. Good going, church!

Tired of sleeping in every Sunday morning?

Have we got an opportunity for you! Come and join Rod Zur's Team. He is looking for people who are willing to sign up for one Sunday a month from 7:30-8:30 am. Opening Team duties include setting the AC's placement of the parking signs and the making of coffee and lemonade. In addition Rod is also building the Closing Team which meets from 12:15-1:15 to clean the kitchen and retrieve the parking signs and turn off the AC. If you are interested please see Rod in the sound booth.



Head Usher Needed

We are in need of a Head Usher for the 11:15 am service. This is a great way to meet other members of our congregation and to service our church. Please call the church office if you are interested.

Child Protection Policy

The Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church has mandated that all churches implement a Child Protection Policy by December 31, 2004. The policy is being enacted to strengthen our ministry as we strive to insure the safety and protection of the children and youth of our church.

ALL volunteers and staff who work with our church's children are required to be screened. They must also attend a training on child protection issues and procedures. This includes all teachers, Vacation Bible School volunteers, youth volunteers and nursery workers and volunteers. Each person "applying" to work with children and/or youth must authorize the church to conduct a criminal background check through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Ponte Vedra UMC will pay \$13 for each background check and we are asking each volunteer to pay \$10 towards the fee.

We have scheduled the required training for Sunday, October 3 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. A make-up session will be held on Wednesday, October 13 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Please call the church office 285-2134 to register for the training. If you have any questions, please call Jill Bennett at 285-2134.

Women's Bible Study Group

The Women's Bible Study Group is now meeting on WEDNESDAY mornings from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We are studying "Developing your SHAPE to Serve Others" which is a Purpose-Driven Resource. We will explore what things God has equipped us to do. Childcare is available. All women are invited and encouraged to attend.



On A Musical Note

The Children's and Youth
Creative Arts Ministry

This Ministry uses music, drama, dance and visual arts to share Christ with our church family and the community. We will present "A Christmas Carol" December 11th & 12th this year in Dinner Theatre style. Come be a part of this exciting Ministry.

Little Cherubs Choir

Ages 3&4 Meet Wednesdays
Time: 7:15-8:15pm Preschool room

Children's Choir

Grades K-5th Meet Wednesdays
Time: 6:15-7:15 pm. Room 2

YCAM Starting Wednesday

September 1st Come and enjoy an extended time, 6:00-8:30, with planned activities and pizza (cost \$2).

Praise Choir is meeting at a new

Time. Come and join us on Tuesdays
From 7:00-8:00pm. All are welcome!

The Seasonal Chorus will have a short

Meeting Thursday September 9th
At 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Are you interested in joining a worship group? For information regarding this or any of the above mentioned ministries Contact Minister of Music, Carol Zur 280-5141 or e-mail carol.zur@pv-umc.org

Jeremiah 24:7 I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord. They will be my people and I will be their God, for they will return to me with all of their heart.

Kid's Korner

Openings for Acolytes

Are you in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade? Interested in serving your church? Interested in becoming an Acolyte? If you answered "yes", please join us here at PVUMC on Sunday the 26th of September at 4:00 to find out more. This fun opportunity to serve is open to all kids in grades 3-5. Contact Martin Combs at 821-8734 if you have any questions. See you on the 26th!

Confirmation Class

We'll be having our first ever confirmation class beginning in January. The class will be led by Pastor Jeff and our youth minister Adam Myers. "Claim the Name" is the resource. Present plans are for 9 weekly sessions on Wednesdays, January 12 through March 9, 6-7pm with confirmands joining on Sunday, March 13. This year the class will be open to youth in 8th - 12th grade who wish to consider becoming a member of the church.

Liturgical Dance Group

The Liturgical Dance Group is starting again for the 2004-2005 school year. Our first rehearsal will be on Sunday, September 5th from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will meet weekly to rehearse for upcoming opportunities to share this ministry with the congregation. Dance experience is not necessary to participate. Please contact Katie Myers if you have questions (270-8809).

Stephen Ministry Class Beginning

Are you interested in becoming a Stephen Minister trained to work one on one with individuals going through a crisis time in their lives? Our congregation partners with Beach United Methodist Church for our Stephen Ministry Program. A training class is scheduled to begin on Monday, September 13th at 7:00pm. The class will meet at BUMC for 14 weeks of training. If you are interested in learning more, please call Cheryl Bradford 992-0196, or Carmen Johns at BUMC, to get an application for Stephen Ministry 249-2343.

Attendance & Giving

August 2004			
	<u>Contemporary</u>	<u>Traditional</u>	<u>Giving</u>
8/1	80	70	\$ 6,333.50
8/8	114	133	9,092.00
8/15	86	106	4,424.05
8/22	87	112	5,263.10
8/29	89	118	4,821.76
Aug Avg	91	108	\$ 5,986.89

Needed weekly
(after "new church" support)
\$ 8,277

Needed weekly
(before "new church" support)
\$11,680

Designated Totals

Building Fund
\$100,520
Missions (YTD)
\$ 20,696
Enhancement Fund
\$ 5,412

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

The little church that does big things for Christ. I was interviewed recently by Kathy Hartman of The Ponte Vedra Leader about our work at the St. Johns County Detention Center. (If you didn't know, on the fourth Saturday morning of the month a small group of our members drives down to talk about Jesus to youth incarcerated there.) As I shared about our ministry I got excited all over again about this big thing our relatively small church does. (If you'd like to go along some fourth Saturday, give **Sue Stanley** a call at 285-2946.)

The little church that attempts big things for Christ. In July we put together a letter of intent to purchase a portion of the New Beginnings Baptist Church property. (No word yet, by the way.) We knew going in that it was a long shot, going up against folks with more money and more clout. But that hasn't stopped us from trying.

The little church that expects big things from Christ. I'm amped up about the 40 Days of Purpose we'll begin in a few weeks. I expect that through these 40 Days we and the newcomers who join us will have a clearer sense than ever of the purpose for which we were created. (Be sure you sign up for a small group!)

How is it that a little church can be involved in such big things? (And there are many more beyond these three!) Our doing, attempting and expecting of great things is undergirded by prayer. We pray for the Detention Center youth before we go and after we return. We will continue to pray Saturdays, 8:30am at New Beginnings until we know the outcome there. And we are praying hard for the Lord to engage us in new ways during the 40 Days.

We may be small but our God is big. Let's stay connected with God and each other and see what the Lord will do next!

Excitedly yours,

Pastor Jeff



PONTE VEDRA United Methodist Church

35 Executive Way, Suite 130
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Phone: 904-280-5141
Fax: 904-280-0599
www.pv-umc.org

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Minister of Music	Carol Zur
Youth Minister	Adam Myers
Admin. Assistant	Deb Dickerson
Childcare Director	Lynne Tyndall
Custodian	Tony Vicent

Staff Email:

firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org