

THE WAVE

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2004

A Christmas

CAROL

December 19th at 7:00pm

The Children's & Youth Creative Arts Ministry invites you to attend their version of the Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol." This modern day telling features twins Kevin and Kirsten who have received \$100 from their grandmother for work done over the summer, just enough for a play station. The children's choir of which they're a part has chosen to support the mission house, but Kevin and Kirsten don't want to part with any of their \$100, even for a great cause like the mission house. Past, present and future angels visit them in hopes of teaching them that it is better to give than to receive. Along the way they learn about the best gift ever given, Jesus!

Monies received during a love offering that evening will go to our local **Mission House** in nearby Jacksonville Beach. Last year the Children's & Youth Creative Arts Ministry raised nearly \$1,000 through their personal offerings and a congregational love offering. The Mission House helps the homeless and needy by providing meals, blankets, showers, laundry facilities and counseling. Medical and dental services are also available. Join our youth and children in giving generously to those in need.

Bring a friend and come early for Christmas dinner, served from 5:30 - 6:30; details inside!

Keep Those Cards and Letters Coming

Many thanks to those of you who have pledged your support to our church through a 2005 financial commitment. For those who haven't, we continue to receive Share Cards for the new year. Pick up a blank card at church or print one out online at www.pv-umc.org.

Upcoming Messages

- December 5 **Getting Christmas Right This Year** (Matthew 3:1-12)
- December 12 **Real Christmas Gifts** (Matthew 11:2-11)
- December 19 **Extreme Christmas** (Matthew 1:18-25)
- December 24 5pm, 7pm: **Let's Go and See Christmas** (Luke 2:1-20)
- December 26 Guest Speaker: Diane Lee

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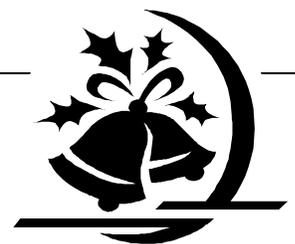
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist
Church





Caroling, Caroling

*Caroling, caroling, now we go
Christmas bells are ringing
Caroling, caroling through the snow
Christmas bells are ringing!*

No promise of snow, but if you'd like to go Christmas caroling, meet at the church at 6:30pm on Sunday the 12th and we'll carpool to bring Christmas cheer to friends and neighbors.

*Joyous voices sweet and clear
Sing the sad of heart to cheer
Ding dong, ding dong
Christmas bells are ringing!*



Merry Christmas



We have ordered poinsettia plants to decorate the sanctuary this year. If you would like to purchase one in honor or memory of a loved one order forms will be available in the December 5 and 12 bulletins or you can call the church office to place your order. The cost is \$6 per plant.

They Keep on Praying and Praying...

Every Saturday since August 21 PVUMC'ers have been praying in the parking lot at New Beginnings Baptist Church for our church, our unconnected neighbors, our world. The focus remains the privilege of buying a portion of that land and buildings but we pray pretty widely beyond that. 8:30 - 9:00am, Saturdays... Come out and pray!

New Member Orientation

Been thinking about joining Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church? Or are you simply interested in learning more about the church? Pastor Jeff will be leading a New Member Orientation on Sunday, January 23, from 4:00-6:00pm. (Yes, it's required to join but it is fun; ask anyone who's been!) Call the church office (280-5141) to let us know you're coming.

The Blessings of Angels

Thank you to all who shared their blessings with the 75 needy children we sponsored this year via the Salvation Army. Your gifts have helped show God's love! A special thank you also to those who volunteered their time to make this project a success.

Thanks also to those who provided 158 shoeboxes of gifts to for needy children through Operation Christmas Child.



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 19th At 7:00pm. Enjoy dinner, a musical and support the local mission house.

Little Cherubs Choir

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

Children's Choir

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

YCAM

Grades 6-12 meet Wednesdays
Time: 6:00-8:30, with
planned activities and pizza (cost \$2).

Praise Choir Come and join us on Tuesdays

From 7:00-8:00pm. All are welcome!

The Traditional Choir meets at 7:00-8:15pm Thursdays. All are welcome!

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.

The Buzz...  **Youth Ministry News**

Reminders:

Dec. 5 Hayride 5:30-8:00pm

Dec. 12 No Youth Group

Dec. 19 No Youth Group; "A Christmas Carol"

There it was, Thanksgiving has come and gone again. You may think you've learned everything you need to know about Thanksgiving, but let's see how you do on this quiz about Pilgrims, turkeys, the Bible and more.

1. By definition, what is a "pilgrim"? A. rebel B. traveler C. church attender D. wearer of funny hats
2. Who was the old woman in the temple who gave thanks that Jesus had been born (eight days after his birth)? A. Anna B. Hannah C. Susannah D. Rosanna.
3. In what year was the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade? A. 1904 B. 1924 C. 1944 D. 1964.
4. How frequently should we be thankful, according to 1 Thessalonians 5:18? A. "Whenever ye triumph over thine enemies." B. "Whenever you pray." C. "Every time you think of what the Lord has done for you." D. "Always" (Or "In all circumstances.")
5. What is the top speed of a wild turkey flying for short distances? A. 35 mph B. 45 mph C. 55 mph D. 65 mph.
6. Who wrote, "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God"? A. John B. Paul C. George D. Ringo.

More important than how much you know about Thanksgiving (the proper noun) is how well you do at "thanks giving" (the active verb). In the midst of this year's massive food spreads and nonstop football games, remember where every "good and perfect" gift comes from (James 1:17). Then be sure to make time to tell God thanks.

ANSWERS: 1.B; 2. A; 3. B; 4. D; 5. C; 6. B

Offering Boxes Ready for Pick up

For your convenience and that of our offering counters boxed offering envelopes will be available for pick up before and after Sunday services December 12 and 19.



Attendance & Giving

November 2004			Designated Totals
Contemporary	Traditional	Giving	
11/7	230	\$ 8,914.64	Building Fund \$ 108,331
11/14	84	7,510.50	Missions (YTD) \$ 31,827
11/21	96	4,650.08	Enhancement Fund \$ 5,556
11/28		6,365.69	
Nov Avg.		\$ 6,860.22	

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

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

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

"Be Prepared." That's the Scout motto I memorized during my years in Scouting and have remembered for the 25 years since. Not a bad motto for a Christian, either. It's a motto particularly well suited to Advent, the season when we prepare ourselves for the coming and the coming again of Christ.

My question is, How do you prepare for the things of life you can't see coming? (Jill and I were surprised by the much-too-early-at-29-weeks arrival of twins Sophie and Spencer. We didn't see that one coming!) It all goes back to another baby, that One who was born in a stable and laid in a manger. That One called Emmanuel, "God with us," who pointed the way, who became The Way to God, who invites us into relationship with God.

Turns out Jill and I were more prepared than I thought. We've invested ourselves in a relationship with this God who loves and cares for us. The fruit of that relationship includes people who are loving and caring for us during our time apart from our precious babies.

Include some relationship building this holiday season, with God and with others. If you've begun thinking about New Year's resolutions, how about putting "join a small group" at the top of the list? You'll connect with a God and with some people who will go the distance with you.

– Pastor Jeff



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