

THE WAVE



VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2007

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Holy Week Happenings

Palm Sunday

We'll celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, April 1. Worshipers at both services will be invited to process into the sanctuary waving palm branches and singing their hosannas. Festive!

Holy Thursday

Our 7:00pm, April 5 Holy Thursday worship will include a 20-minute Service of Tenebrae (Service of the Shadows) brought to us by the Traditional Choir. May our grasp of Christ's suffering and death serve to increase our joy at his resurrection.

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday, April 8, will find us worshipping at 8:00 (Traditional), 9:30 (Contemporary) and 11:00 (Traditional). What a great Sunday to invite a friend to church!

We anticipate record attendance at our 11:00 Easter service. Traditional worshipers might consider worshipping at 8:00am that day in order to provide a seat and a parking space for a guest at 11:00.

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist Church

Upcoming Messages



April 1 **Fools for the Sake of Christ** (1 Corinthians 4:10a)

April 8 **What You See Is What You Get** (John 20:1-18)

April 15 **Locking Out Jesus? No Way!** (John 20:19-31)

A healing service will be incorporated in each of this morning's worship services

April 22 **Strange New World** (John 21:1-19)

April 29 **"Show Us Who You Are, Jesus"** (John 10:22-30)

Missions Corner

Costa Rica Missions

Thanks to those who made material and financial gifts to the mission work in Costa Rica. \$1,450 has been sent to meet the needs of the school children living in Costa Rica. You can still sponsor a student for one year of school in Costa Rica (individual or group sponsors).

The cost is \$150 per school child. Please make checks payable to PVUMC Missions and designate it "Costa Rica Missions."



Dine at Ole' Mexican Restaurant on April 16 or May 21; 50% of the net profits go toward the Costa Rica mission trips.

B.E.A.M.

Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry

Thanks to all who donated bags of groceries to fill the shelves of the food bank at B.E.A.M. Your generosity will positively effect the needy families in the beaches area.

Blood Drive - Huge Success!

A great big THANK YOU to everyone one who helped make the first Ponte Vedra UMC blood drive such a huge success. On Sunday, March 18 we had 28 persons who stepped forward to donate and we collected 20 units of blood! How wonderful to know that some of the blood that we donated has already saved lives in the Jacksonville area. Thanks again to all who turned out for this important community mission. If you were unable to participate this time, don't worry, we will do it again in a few months.

A Word from Wesley

As a very little dust will disorder a clock, and the least sand will obscure our sight, so the least grain of sin which is upon the heart will hinder its right motion toward God.

—*Jackson, XI, 438.*

"A Journey of Faith" Followup

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS

A Journey of Faith goal:	\$ 1.2 million
Pledged to Date:	\$ 1.3 million
Received on pledges to date:	\$ 1,138,271
Building Fund Total Balance:	\$ 1,254,475

Thank you for your faithful, generous giving to the *Journey of Faith* capital campaign and for your giving in general in support of the ministry of the church.

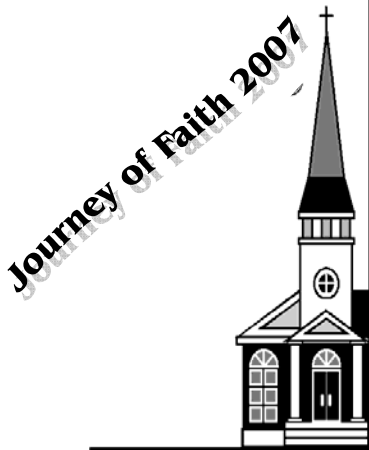
– Your Followup Director Team: David & Patricia Branham, Jim & Sherry Banks

Welcome, Nursery Coordinator Kim Knopp

We are grateful to have Kim Knopp serving as our nursery coordinator. Kim is a third grade teacher at Abess Elementary School in Jacksonville. She is married to Jack; they have three daughters. Welcome, Kim!

Child/Youth Protection Training Scheduled

Many responsibilities in ministry to our children and youth require that volunteers attend a training session and undergo a background check. Pastor Jeff and our nursery coordinator Kim Knopp are offering the requisite training on Sunday, April 15 at 4:00pm. If you've not had this training and desire to work with children or youth please plan to attend. Let the office (280-5141) know to expect you.



March 2007 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp.	Trad.	General	Capital
3/4	90	97	\$ 11,184	\$ 1,320
3/11	82	121	\$ 11,115	\$ 2,920
3/18	85	97	\$ 8,388	\$ 845
3/25	93	83	\$ 4,911	\$ 1,340

Designated Totals

Building Fund
\$ 1,254,475

Missions (YTD)
\$ 290

Enhancement Fund
\$ 3,691

Needed Weekly 2007

\$11,346

★ The church office is open Tuesdays—Fridays from 10am—2pm. ★



On A Musical Note
The Children's and Youth
Creative Arts Ministry

Children's Arts Ministry

Age 4 through 5th Grade
Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm

YCAM

Grades 6-12
Wednesdays 5:45-8:00pm

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:00pm

Student News

Our students did a bang-up job designing and leading the Sunday night youth program (6:00 - 8:00) last month. Well done and thank you! Student leadership continues to meet at 5:00pm each Sunday.



Our thanks to adult leaders **Yolie Macon** and **Jack Knopp** as they encourage and equip these students in their expanding leadership roles.

Thanks too to the adults who provide meals on Sunday nights. We appreciate you!



**TOP TEN
REASONS TO
VOLUNTEER AT
AVALANCHE
RANCH
JUNE 18-22**

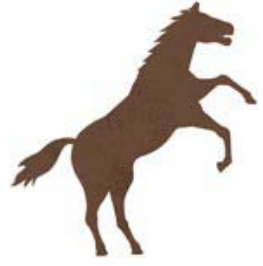


10. Everybody looks good in a cowboy hat.
9. Where else can you go on a cattle drive in Ponte Vedra?
8. All the fun and none of the smell!
7. No chance of stepping on cow patties!
6. Y'all have "herd" how easy it is, and fun to boot!
5. Saddlebags trailing behind you can be a good thing!
4. Y'all don't want to cause the director any whoa by being a neigh-sayer.
3. Y'all will have free rein to let the kid in y'all come out and play.
2. Y'all can get a long, little doggie without going to the pound.

And... the number one reason for spending a week at Avalanche Ranch:

You have the chance to change a child's life forever by showing them God's love. It's not about a week, it's about eternity!

Avalanche Ranch Vacation Bible School, June 18-22
Children ages 4 through completed 5th graders are invited to attend.



Calling All Women!

All women are invited to the United Methodist Women's Luncheon on Saturday, April 21 at 11:00am in the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Please bring a friend, a dish to share and your mission ideas.

Meet Our New Members!

We are excited to welcome and get to know a little about our new members **Dolores Harrison** and **Bill and Linda Donovan**.

Dolores Harrison originally comes from Tampa, Florida but has traveled all over the world as her husband was in the military. Following his death she met and married Bill Harrison, combining her 3 children and his 5 children who have since blessed them with 11 grandchildren ranging from six to twenty-six. They have been married for 30 years. Bill retired from Gayfers where he was the General Manager. Sunday is a special day for the Harrison family as they join their son Randy Bringer and his wife Julie and grandchildren at the second service. Dolores loves to read and join Bible studies. She also loves traveling to visit children and grandchildren all over the country. Dolores recently became secretary of our newly formed United Methodist Women and invites all you ladies to join them.

Linda Donovan is a native of Jacksonville who attended Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green where she met and married Bill when she was just 19 and he 21. **Bill** is from Scranton, Pa. Linda went on to Vanderbilt University to become a dietitian working in hospitals and nursing homes. Bill got his masters at Western Kentucky and began a career with Bell South in Bowling Green, eventually being transferred to Jacksonville. Linda was glad as all her family is here. In 1987 they started Donovan Heating and Air Conditioning in Jacksonville Beach. Their three children Joel, Jimmy and Kyle were brought up at Mom's knee in the office. They now run the company and Linda retired, her work accomplished. Bill retired from Bell South in 1996 and the Donovans have recently expanded their company. They have a passion for long distance bicycle riding, riding 100 or more miles a day. They have biked all over Europe and in many of the United States. Many of their bike rides were for charitable causes.

Our church is blessed to have them as members.

Interested in Joining PVUMC?

Our next **new member orientation** is scheduled for Sunday, April 22 from 4 to 6pm. All who are considering membership or would simply like to learn more about our church are encouraged to participate. Pastor Jeff will lead the group; he looks forward to getting to know you.

Make a Guest Feel Welcome

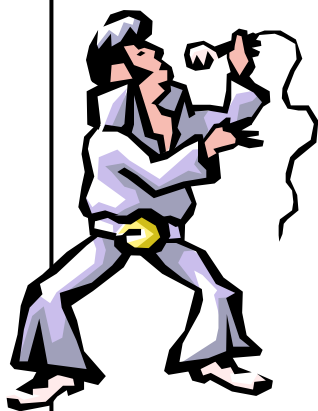
Do you like to meet new people? Have a friendly smile? If you answered yes to those questions, you may be interested in becoming a PVUMC Shepherd. The purpose of the shepherding program is to become intentional about making the guests that visit our church feel welcome. This is accomplished by having trained Shepherds introduce themselves to guests and then introduce the guest to other members around them. All that is required is arriving at church a few minutes early on your Sunday, watching for guests and making them feel welcome. If you are interested in taking a few steps across the sanctuary to help us further our mission of "connecting the unconnected," please contact Cecily Browning at 285-2648 or cecily.browning@pv-umc.org. Training sessions are scheduled for Sunday, April 22 at 3:00 and Thursday, April 26 at 4:00. Both of these meetings will be at the church. Attendance is only required at one session.

Block Party

We'll be enjoying a cookout here on Saturday, April 14 beginning at 4:00pm. There'll be good food and fun for adults and children alike. We'll be inviting residents of *The Colony* to join us, much as we did last year. This would also be a great opportunity to introduce a friend to our fine church family. **Kitty the Clown** will be doing balloons and face painting; there will also be a Space Walk set up. Plan now to come!

More fun than human beings should be allowed to have, it's...

The 2007 Talent Show



A perennial favorite, this year's show will feature acts that have never been seen before (and in the case of some, will never be seen again!). From the silly to the sublime, there promises to be something for everyone. Got a talent? Share it! Our booking agent **Scott Tinsley** (280-5141, scott.tinsley@pv-umc.org) is waiting to hear from you. It all happens Friday, April 27 at 7:00pm. Tickets will soon be available for the bargain price of \$8 (two for \$16) or your entire family can attend for an Andy Jackson. (That's a twenty, by the way.) Proceeds to benefit the youth on their next mission trip.

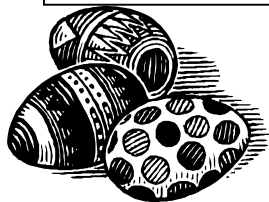


Spotlight on Volunteers

You may have seen **Marilyn Elston** singing God's praises in the Traditional Choir, or working as an office volunteer. You may have seen her last year serving on Worship Committee, or delivering groceries to BEAM. One thing is sure: Whenever you saw her, she was smiling. She's just so joyful that it wells up inside her and splashes out all over the rest of us!

Marilyn and Bill (her husband of 30 years) have 5 children and 9 grandchildren. Marilyn sews, quilts and loves to read. Her wonderful husband Bill keeps her laughing with his special rendition of "their song." Marilyn is a former aerial ballerina and once appeared in a Dove Soap commercial.

Easter Egg Hunt



Our Easter Egg Hunt & Party will be Sunday, April 1 at 4pm. This year's fun will be at Accotink Academy by the Sea at 171 Canal Blvd. All kids through the 5th grade are invited. Bring your baskets!

Directions: Heading south on A1A turn west onto 210/Palm Valley Road. Turn right onto Canal Blvd. The school is on the left.

Five Fingers of Prayer

1. Your thumb is nearest to you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a "sweet duty."
2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.
4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly comes our little finger; the smallest finger of all, which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

I just spent an hour putting my 2-year old son in bed. That hour followed the normal 20-minute routine of putting him *to* bed. Spencer and his twin sister have just graduated to big boy and big girl beds. This means they can now get out at will. (Spencer was getting out of his crib anyway; the beds are less dangerous.) Sophie has taken to it right away but Spencer has fought it every inch of the way. Jill's out tonight so I'm the parent in charge. I did what we'd agreed on: every time Spencer got out of bed I put him back in the bed. No words, no eye contact, just back in the bed. Probably 50-plus times in the span of 60 minutes. Great were the tears.

It was terribly unpleasant, so why did I do it? Because I love my child enough to discipline him. Jill and I know how much better his life and the life of our family will be once he gets this. As I was making my umpteenth toddler hoist I got to thinking how much I appreciate God doing the same for me. Spencer and I have this in common: we are each capable of throwing a pretty good tantrum when things don't go our way. But God never caves in to my demands; he patiently and firmly loves me through the crisis. And sooner or later I learn this lesson and we move on.

In the days leading to Easter we consider again the sacrifice God made for us through his Son, Jesus the Christ. Indeed, the cross is the ultimate expression of God's love. But I also count as precious the patience and longsuffering of God as he continues to love us. May we receive and treasure this expression of God's love too.

–Pastor Jeff



PONTE VEDRA
*United Methodist
Church*

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Diane Wright
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Custodian	Tony Vicent

Staff Email:

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