

The Wave



VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

MAY 2007

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Money Matters	2
<i>A Journey of Faith</i> Followup	3
Youth News	6
Note from Pastor Jeff	8

Church Purchases 76 Roscoe Blvd S

Good news! Good news! On April 11 the church closed on the purchase of five acres at 76 Roscoe Blvd S. For details on the financial aspect of the purchase see *A Journey of Faith Followup* on page 3. The Trustees are hosting an **open house** for those who would like to visit the property. Come on out Sunday, May 20, between 12:00 and 2:00pm.

A building committee is presently being formed; **John McEvoy** has been named chair. The congregation will be surveyed as a starting point for the committee. A time line for construction has yet to be determined.

Our 35 Executive Way lease ends August 31. **Jerry Sanders** is leading the effort to prepare for and execute a move of our weekday operations to the 1,400 square foot house located on the property.

Our final worship services at our present location will be held Sunday, August 5. We expect to begin worship services at Ocean Palms Elementary School (355 Landrum Lane, approximately ½ mile from our Roscoe Blvd site) the following Sunday.

A follow-up to our very successful capital campaign, *A Journey of Faith*, is anticipated. Commitments to the second campaign will not be received until the first concludes in March 2008. Pledges to *A Journey of Faith* continue to be filled and additional gifts to the Building & Property Acquisition fund are welcome.

We praise God for his goodness and continued provision as we seek his will.

Upcoming Messages

May 6 **Denial or Devotion** (John 13:31-35), Rev. Tim Machtel preaching

May 13 **Making a Home... With Us** (John 14:23-29)

May 20 **A Share in Christ's Glory** (John 17:20-26)

May 27 **Jesus Is God** (John 14:8-17, 25-27)

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist Church



Money Matters

An occasional column on things financial

I came across an intriguing article in the April 9 edition of Forbes magazine written by British historian and author **Paul Johnson**. In talking about benefactors and the money they leave, Johnson mentions the great industrialist **Andrew Carnegie** who was, in his day, one of the world's richest people. I graduated from the university that bears Carnegie's name but I'd never read this about the grand Scotsman. Johnson writes,

In his fascinating essay, "The Gospel of Wealth," Carnegie argues that it is morally acceptable to become rich by lawful means but reprehensible to hang on to that wealth: "[The] man who dies rich dies disgraced."

Carnegie practiced what he preached. Johnson goes on to say that Carnegie used the bulk of the \$480 million he got from the sale of his business to endow an umbrella body for dispensing cash. In 1919 a volume was published listing a vast number of projects, including 7,689 church organs and 2,811 free public libraries, on which a total of \$350,695,653 had been spent. Other rich men followed Carnegie's lead, people like **John D. Rockefeller** and **Henry Ford**.

I love to see that spirit alive in America today. It's been encouraging to see **Bill Gates** and **Warren Buffett** following in Carnegie's footsteps. I notice that each has committed considerable portions of their wealth to the public good *while they are living*. Perhaps they're simply following the old maxim, "He who gives while he lives, knows where it goes." I hope that Gates and Buffett are experiencing the joy of doing good while doing well. I hope you are too.

– Pastor Jeff

Remember

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 13

A Word from Wesley

Two old members recovered I make more account of than three new ones. I love to see backsliders return.

–*Jackson, XII, 452.*

"A Journey of Faith" Followup

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS

<i>A Journey of Faith</i> goal:	\$ 1.2 million
Pledged to Date:	\$ 1,244,570
Received on pledges to date:	\$ 1,126,661
Building Fund Total Balance:	\$ 322,637
Indebtedness:	\$ 300,000

We are presently in the 25th month of the 36-month capital campaign which ends March 31, 2008. 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.

The Trustees are glad to announce that each of the issues pertaining to the purchase of the 5 acre parcel at 76 Roscoe Blvd have been resolved. The church closed on purchase of the property on April 11; we now own property upon which to build a worship facility.

Funds on hand were sufficient to purchase the property for cash. Because the goal of the church is not the purchase of land but the construction of a worship facility, the Finance Committee elected to take a mortgage on the property in the amount of \$300,000. The funds on hand will allow us to begin the process of planning to build.

The cost of the land with associated purchase costs was \$1,286,000. The mortgage on the land is \$300,000. The present balance of the Building Fund is \$322,637.

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity in giving to the *A Journey of Faith* capital campaign. Many of you have fulfilled your commitment to this campaign and others continue to do so. God bless you.

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



April 2007 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp.	Trad.	General	Capital
4/1	99	93	\$ 9,196	\$ 469
4/8 Easter 8am	37	n/a	\$ 15,000	\$ 970
9:30am & 11am	173	185		
4/15	90	81	\$ 4,520	\$ 960
4/22	83	92	\$ 19,072	\$ 35

<u>Designated Totals</u>
Building Fund
\$ 322,637
Missions (YTD)
\$ 224
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 6:30-8:00pm

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:00pm



Come take a ride with us at Vacation Bible School June 18 - 22 from 9:00 - 12:00. All kids ages 4 through completed 5th graders are invited to come and bring a friend. Call the church office at 280-5141 to register. Join the herd!

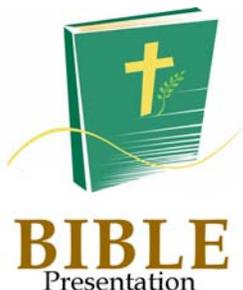


Can you help turn the sanctuary into "Avalanche Ranch" for VBS, June 18-22? We need decorative items to give the sanctuary a decidedly western/ranch flavor. Perhaps you have a barrel, cowboy hat or lantern? Maybe a friend or neighbor rides horses and has access to rope, hay bales, etc.? Here are some suggestions:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Wagon wheel | Rocking chair |
| Hay bales | Cowbell |
| Lantern | Barrels |
| Cactus | Cowboy boots or hats |
| Saddlebag | Saddle |
| Camp coffee pot or dishes | Steer horns |
| Rope | Horse blankets |
| Horse collar | Bed rolls |

Please label your items so they may be returned and bring them in beginning June 1. Contact Lisa Hancock, 273-8842.

**Children's Arts Ministry
To Break For Summer**



The Children's Arts Ministry will have its last regular Wednesday night gathering on May 16th. It has been a great season and the kids look forward to getting back together again in September. The children will bless the church at each worship service on Sunday the 20th; don't miss it!

Sunday May 20 we will present Bibles to children currently in the 3rd grade. If you have a child in the third grade or a child who hasn't previously received a Bible and is in a higher grade level, please call the church office (280-5141) with their name.

Calling All Women!

Ladies: If you are interested in forming a Quilting Circle within the United Methodist Women, Marilyn Elston wants to hear from you. She's out of town until late May but would love for you to e-mail her at wsels@aol.com or call her now on her cell at 607-4535.

The Board of the United Methodist Women will meet on May 5th at 11:00am at the home of Vera Combs, 146 N Roscoe Blvd. We will be working on the budget for 2007. Anyone interested in helping is welcome. Call 285-2854 for directions.

All women are invited to the United Methodist Women meeting on Saturday June 23 at 11:00am in the church fellowship hall.

Dean DeWall Receives Faith in Action Heart of Gold Award

Our own Dean DeWall is the 2007 recipient for Volunteer Jacksonville's Faith in Action, Heart of Gold award. Dean does much of his volunteering through Hart Felt Ministries, joining many others of our church. Dean's specialty is building things. He has helped several elderly residents of greater Jacksonville area remain in their homes by completing minor home repairs and building wheelchair ramps though some of his projects have been much more involved.

Congratulations on your recognition for work well done, Dean!

Thank You's

Thanks to all who prepared for, participated in, and cleaned up after the block party. Our neighbors at *The Colony*, employees of the Gate station and the friends you brought were blessed by this fun event!

Thanks to each who provided talent for our Talent Show and who purchased tickets in support of this fundraiser for the summer's youth mission trips. A special thanks to organizer **Scott Tinsley** and to all who delighted in the acts offered on April 27.

Thanks to the women who have come together to form a unit of United Methodist Women at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church. What a blessing you are to us and what a blessing you'll be beyond our local church and community as you fulfill the mission of UMW.

A Word from our Youth Minister, Kelly Minter

Hello, Ponte Vedra UMC! I'd like to start off by thanking everyone for making my transition to this church so fabulous! I have felt so welcome, and I can tell that this is a church that loves and supports their youth!

For those of you who I have not yet had the pleasure of getting to know, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Kelly Minter, and I moved to Jacksonville in January of 2007. Before Jacksonville I lived in Orlando for 3 years, where I served Conway United Methodist Church as their Youth Minister. I was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, where the rest of my family still lives.

I heard my call into youth ministry when I was a junior in high school. The new senior pastor of my home church asked me to help start a youth ministry, and from then on, I knew that was what God had in store for me. That sums up the last 10 years of my life. ☺

I am so excited to be a part of your church family, especially now. This is such an exciting time! I have always found great comfort (and challenge!!!) in a certain Bible passage, and I hope you will too:

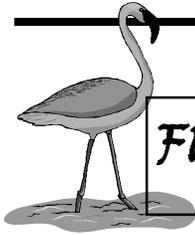
"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart".

--Jeremiah 29:11-13

Here's to seeking God together, with our whole hearts!

Blessings,
Kelly Minter





Flamingos on the Loose

ATTENTION! A flock of flamingos has escaped from the Jacksonville Zoo! According to migratory patterns, it is believed that they will land in Ponte Vedra on Sunday, June 10. Luckily for us, the youth of Ponte Vedra UMC are trained flamingo removers!



Beginning Sunday, May 27, we will be selling flamingo insurance after the worship services. The insurance will cost \$20, and will guarantee the safety of your lawn on June 10. If you choose not to buy the insurance and the flock does happen to land at your house on June 10, you will need to call the removal team. (Flamingo removal is \$15, and for an extra \$5 you can send them to a neighbor's lawn. ☺)

All flamingo proceeds will benefit the youth summer mission trips!

Youth On The Road



We have two youth mission trips on the calendar this summer.

The week of June 24, high school students will be traveling to Philadelphia to participate in a youthworks mission week. We will be working with soup kitchens, homeless shelters, retirement communities, and running a week long kids camp from our home base in Fishtown. The total cost of this trip will be \$528/person. A \$50/person deposit is due May 6; this will hold your spot on the trip! Another \$100/person will be due on May 18.

The week of July 1, middle school students will be traveling to Daytona Beach. We will also be participating in a youthworks mission week where we will work with a retirement community, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, clean beaches, and run a week long kids camp. This trip will cost \$280/person, and a \$50/person deposit will be due on May 1. An additional deposit (amount to be decided after the talent show fundraiser) will be due May 25.

If any of these deadlines are a hardship for your family, please don't hesitate to call Kelly at the office, and we will make it work. Money should never prevent our youth from doing God's work!

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

You just never know. When I left for vacation March 19 I was certain our church would be exiting the contract for purchase of 76 Roscoe Blvd S. I'd prepared those who receive the weekly Pastor's Pen e-mail to receive bad news, so poor was the first round of soils reports. In my mind I was already working up a message on how to deal with disappointment.

I came back to find that on the advice of former Trustees chair **John McEvoy**, our present chair **Joe Vozza** had asked the Trustees to engage a second soils expert to evaluate the property. The second engineer arrived at a different conclusion than the first. Each recommended a full geotechnical survey which was contracted for in short order. To make a long story short, within three weeks we had closed on the property.

What to make of all this? I'm tempted to quote baseball legend Yogi Berra: "It ain't over till it's over." Instead I'll go with Proverbs 19:21.

The human mind may devise many plans,
but it is the purpose of the LORD that will be established.

Glad that God is in charge,

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
Youth Minister	Kelly Minter
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Diane Wright
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Custodian	Tony Vicent

Staff Email:

firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org