

THE WAVE



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2008

Live Like You Were Dying

If you got word today that you had only 30 days to live, how would your life change? How would God want you to live your last month? How would it impact your relationships? Would you prepare for eternity? What would you do that you've never done before? Tim McGraw recorded a Grammy Award-winning song entitled *Live Like You Were Dying*; it's the inspiration of the four week message series we'll begin March 30 as we consider what really matters.

Family Fun Day, April 5

Join in an old fashioned game day for parents, grandparents and kids. We'll grill hot dogs and play games like sack race, three-legged race, baton relay, wheel-barrow race, egg & spoon relay and more. A blast from the past for kids of today. The fun begins at 4pm on Saturday, April 5!

Church Town Hall Meeting, April 13

We will hold a church town hall meeting on Sunday, April 13 at 7:00pm at The Players Community Senior Center to update the congregation on building plans, financing and timeline. That evening the Trustees will seek congregational approval of the project prior to submitting the proposal to the district the following week. Please plan to participate.

★ It's time for the annual church-wide talent show Friday, April 18. ★
★ "More fun than human beings should be allowed to have!" (See page 6.) ★

Upcoming Messages

- ~~~~~ "Live Like You Were Dying" message series ~~~~~
- March 30 "Living with a Sense of Urgency and of Eternity" (1 Peter 4:7-8, Psalm 90:12)
 - April 6 "Living with a Sense of Priority" (Ephesians 5:15-17, Matthew 16:25-26)
 - April 13 "Making More Time for Relationships" (Hebrews 10:24-25, Ephesians 4:32)
 - April 20 "Celebrating Release from Judgment, Releasing Others from Our Judgment" (Romans 8:33-34, 14:13)
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 - April 27 "Cleansing in the Spirit" Kelly Minter speaking

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OUR MISSION:

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



He is the Rock his works are perfect, and all his ways are just.
Deuteronomy 32:4

Money Matters

An occasional column on things financial

The following was published last month under the headline "Science, Bible agree: Giving is better."

By RANDOLPH E. SCHMID, AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON - The Bible counsels misers that it's better to give than to receive. Science agrees. People who made gifts to others or to charities reported they were happier than folks who didn't share, according to a report in Friday's issue of the journal Science.

While previous studies have shown that having more money can increase happiness, the researchers at the University of British Columbia and Harvard University wondered if the way people spent their money made any difference.

Turns out, it does.

Lead researcher Elizabeth W. Dunn, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia, said she wasn't surprised that doing something for others made people happy.

But she was struck by how big the effect was and that how people spent money was more important than how much money they had.

"This work suggests that even making small alterations in how we spend money on a daily basis can make a difference in happiness," Dunn said in a telephone interview.

"That doesn't mean go get a high paying job so you can spend tons of money on others. The message is, given what you have, how can you make little alterations to do something for others," she said.

And, she added, "there's nothing special about money," giving can involve time or special skills to help other people.

Read the full article at http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080320/ap_on_sc/good_to_give

A Word from Wesley

When we are born again, then our sanctification, our inward and outward holiness begins. And thenceforward we are gradually to "grow up in him who is our head."

– *Works II, 198.*

Welcome, New Members!

On March 16 we were delighted to receive into membership **John & DeAn Foulk, Charles & Beverly Lovings, and Kay Richardson**. Welcome!

Our next **new member orientation** is scheduled for Sunday, May 18 from 3 to 5pm. 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.

Block Party at Sawmill Lakes, May 3

We'll be enjoying a cookout with our neighbors in Sawmill Lakes on Saturday, May 3 beginning at 4:00pm. There'll be good food and fun for adults and children alike. While residents of Sawmill Lakes will be our special guests, 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 and we've arranged for the Space Walk to be set up. Plan now to come; we'd like every guest that day to get a sense of how much we enjoy being together. (Directions will appear in next month's edition of *The Wave*.)

Building on Faith Thank You

My thanks to everyone who worked on our incredibly successful *Building on Faith* capital stewardship campaign. From the campaign leaders who began working late last year to the folks who served on each of the teams to the many who prayed for our church in this effort, God used you mightily! And for those that will lead us through the three years of the campaign and those who will faithfully give, our prayers continue to be with you.

– Pastor Jeff

March 2008 Giving & Attendance



Building
on Faith

Date	Contemp.	Trad.	General	Capital	
3/2	120	91	\$ 11,033	\$ 1,204	Designated Totals
3/9	80	73	\$ 8,377	\$ 410	Building Fund
3/16	(Combined)	202	\$ 12,083	\$ 400	\$ 543,587
Palm Sunday					Enhancement Fund
3/20		32	\$ 120	\$ -0-	\$ 3,346
Holy Thursday					
3/23	145	151	\$ 10,569	\$ 129,237	Memorials
Easter					\$ 5,678

Needed Weekly 2008
\$ 10,100

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

“A Journey of Faith” Campaign Followup

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS

<i>A Journey of Faith</i> goal:		\$ 1.2 million
Amount pledged:		\$ 1,234,580
Received on pledges:	\$ 1,182,766 (96% of pledged total)	
Non-pledged gifts		\$ 82,456
Total gifts:	\$ 1,265,222 (105% of goal of \$1.2 million)	
Interest income:		\$ 70,881
Total Receipts:	\$ 1,336,103 (111% of goal of \$1.2 million)	

This 36-month capital campaign is now complete. What a huge success! 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.

“Building on Faith” Campaign Followup

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS

<i>Building on Faith</i> goal:		\$ 1.3 million
Amount pledged to date: (as of 3/23/08)		\$ 1,188,554
Received on pledges to date:	\$ 254,237** (21% of pledged total)	
Building fund balance: (as of 3/23/08)		\$ 543,587
Indebtedness:		\$ 300,000
**First Fruits Sunday receipts		\$ 129,237
Received prior to 3/23/08		\$ 125,500
Received to date		\$ 254,737



Our Pink Flamingo Fundraiser was a huge success! Thank you to all of our congregation members who participated, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! And we raised \$1,100 for the summer mission trips!

Creation Deposits Due April 1! \$70 will reserve your space on the 2008 Senior trip (Juniors are invited too!). The total trip cost is \$140

Student Leader and Counselor Training, Saturday, April 5. A great day of training for our students and adults in leadership. Hosted by Youth Specialties and held at Faith Christian Center Church. Let Kelly know ASAP if you will be attending!

Talent Show 2008, Friday April 18. Come and see the hidden talents of our church family! Youth members, we are looking for MCs and acts!

Photo Scavenger Hunt, April 19...NOTE THE DATE CHANGE! We will meet at the church at 10AM, split ourselves into groups, arm ourselves with cameras, and follow the clues! We will come back for lunch at 12:30, and after our lunch break we will be putting together our presentations for judging. Big prize for the winners!!! Bring friends and \$2 to cover lunch costs!

Lock-in! May 23-24. Bring friends and be prepared to have fun! Watch your email for more information!

Florida Conference Summer Mission Interns Sought

College students and recent high school graduates are being sought to work in ministry with children at day and overnight camps this summer as a mission intern.

Candidates must be willing to share their gifts and talents June 8 through August 8, at various settings throughout Florida; possess an aptitude to work with children and youth; have an enthusiasm for sharing your Christian faith; willing to be placed in groups of two - five to work in United Methodist outreach agencies or with summer camp ministries at the Life Enrichment Center and Riverside Retreat.

We are a partnership of the Florida Conference's Outreach Ministries, Camp and Retreat Ministries, Campus Ministries, and Justice and Spirituality Ministries; we provide weekly stipend, room and board, and training.

For an application or further information e-mail the Rev. David Berkey at dberkey@flumc.org or download a copy of the application from the conference's Web site at http://www.flumc.org/camp/summer_mission_intern.pdf. You can also call for an application at 800-282-8011, Ext. 140. The deadline to apply is April 15.



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

C.I.A. Children In Action

Kindergarten through 5th Grade
Wednesdays 3:30-5:00pm

YCAM

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

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:00pm

From The Doors to
going to be one of the
that needs to be seen

It all happens Friday, April 18 at 7:00pm at Ocean Palms Elementary. Tickets will soon be available for the bargain price of \$8 (two for \$16) or bring the whole family for \$20. Proceeds will benefit the youth on their summer mission trips.



More fun than human beings should be allowed to have, it's... The 2008 Talent Show

A Note From Diane Wright...

Palm Sunday was outstanding. I want to take this opportunity to send out a huge thank you to all involved in the cantata. "At the Name of Jesus" was spectacular and exceeded all of my dreams. I have listened to the CD, and oh, what a sound.

Special thanks to the Traditional Choir, of course, but also the Praise Choir, YCAM, and of course, the children. All of you helped to make the music beautiful. And to my narrators, Tom Wright, Kelly Minter, and Sadie Snyder, what an awesome job you did. It tied everything together, and the three of you were a team. Thank you so much!

Where would I be with Scott's help? Thank you for your work with the Praise Choir, and for your voice. What a pleasure to listen to you. And finally, to our sound man Jim Mooney. Thanks for your time and talent. We couldn't have done it without you.

I am sure that I have forgotten someone, and if I have, please forgive me. It was glorious and what a way to praise God.

**Vacation
Bible School**

SAVE THE DATE!

JULY 14 - 18

9:00AM - NOON



Join Us At VBS!

Family Fun Day

Slip on your sneakers and bring your lawn chairs. We are bringing some old fashioned fun to Ponte Vedra UMC. We will have adult/child wheel barrow races, sack races, egg/spoon relays and even a baby bottle relay. The fun begins at 76 S Roscoe Blvd at 4:00pm on April 5th.

- Diane Wright

Thank You Greetings

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, cards and visits to the funeral home during the death of Steve's father, Horace Sheppe. Steve, my mother-in-law and I really appreciate your prayers and support during this difficult time. May God bless you all.

In Christ,

Steve, Angela & Ruth Sheppe

Dear Church Family,

I wanted to thank you so much for the food, flowers and especially the prayers during my illness. I don't know what I would have done without you. I love my church family and Art and I are so grateful for you.

Art and Libby Denning



Spotlight on Volunteers

When I glance at my watch, I see the dot and pray on the spot. I pray for our church, I pray for our *Building on Faith* Campaign, and I praise the Lord for **Dotty Rashba**. After all, that's where I got the dot in the first place.

Dotty was one of those who responded to a postcard invitation when we first opened the doors of PVUMC. She has been here ever since and has been blessing us with her teaching and service the whole time. Dotty has been and currently is a gifted Sunday School teacher, led Traveling Tuesdays class, been an Usher/Greeter and Shepherd. She's a dedicated e-pray-er and was Spiritual Life Director for the capital campaign. She is part of the Building Committee that came up with the beautiful design for our new sanctuary.

Dotty has worked with and supports Hartfelt Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer International, Room to Read and is able to help support young missionaries in China and Kazakhstan. In her spare time, Dotty teaches full-time at Discovery Montessori School in Jacksonville Beach. She loves her family, her church, her yard, the beach, sunrises and sunsets. She enjoys walking, cooking, baking bread, and canoeing on the marsh, but her most favorite thing to do is to serve communion at church. "I am always SO HONORED to be able to do this for others. Of all that I do, it is the most meaningful and humbling service I give."

And that says it all. Thanks Dotty!

A Note From Pastor Jeff.

I experienced a most wonderful blessing Easter morning.

A couple of months ago I was invited to preach the ecumenical sunrise service at the pavilion in Jacksonville Beach. The sacrifice of getting up well before dawn was small potatoes compared to what I knew I'd miss at home. I wouldn't be getting home until well past the time my kids get up; I'd miss the hunt for Easter baskets. While Spencer and Sophie did this last year, they were just 2 then and would have no recollection of Easter morning; it would all be new to them and I'd miss the fun.

I felt I should accept the invitation and with Jill's consent I said yes. Come Easter morning I was up and away well before 6 and not home until 7:45 or so. I was still in the driveway when Jill stepped out of the house with the news: "I can't believe how late our kids are sleeping!" Sure enough, Spencer had just gotten up and the girls were still in bed. This despite the anticipation of Easter *and* the excitement at having their 11-year old cousin spend the night.

Whether or not this qualifies as a miracle I can't say, but in my book it ranks way up there as a big-time blessing. How curious... I'd willingly made the sacrifice of being away from my family Easter morning, yet in the end, God, who delights in giving good gifts, gave it all back to me. Seems you simply cannot out give God.

Easter blessings,
Pastor Jeff



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