

THE WAVE



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2008

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"The Jesus I Never Knew" to Conclude with Celebration Sunday, November 9

For several years now we've enjoyed *Celebration Sunday* as the culmination of the fall church wide study series. This year is no exception. We'll enjoy a **combined worship service at 10:30am on Sunday, November 9**. We look forward to the offerings of the praise band and choir, the traditional choir, Youth Creative Arts Ministry (YCAM) and Children In Action (C.I.A.) and Pastor Jeff's message, *Left Behind... With a Mission*. We'll enjoy a **catered meal** together immediately following our worship together.

Groundbreaking to be Celebrated on Sunday, November 9 at 1:00pm

We will break ground for our new building at 76 S. Roscoe Blvd at 1:00pm on Sunday, November 9. Enjoy the combined 10:30am worship service, a delicious meal, and a continuation of the celebration as we move to 76 S. Roscoe to turn over some dirt.

As part of our groundbreaking you will have the opportunity to drive a stake where the walls of our sanctuary building will be. Stakes are available Sunday, November 2 and 9. On your stake you may choose to write a blessing, a favorite Scripture or a prayer of praise or thanksgiving. (Your name too, if you like.) Got a hammer? Bring it along to groundbreaking.

Upcoming Messages

November 2 "Death and Resurrection" (Matthew 27:27-28:10)

November 9 "Left Behind... With a Mission" (John 17:6-19)

November 16 "Who's in Charge: Me or My Money?" (Matthew 6:24)

November 23 "On the Heavenly Payroll: How We Handle our Time, Treasure, and Talent Here Makes a Difference There" (Matthew 16:27, Revelation 22:12-13)

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist
Church



Sunday, November 2

Missions Corner

Wow! 61 bags of groceries received for BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) on October 12.

Wow! 23 units of blood received by The Florida Georgia Blood Alliance on October 19.

Wow! 9 volunteers cleaned the yard of Miss Elouise, a client of Hart Felt Ministries, on October 25.

Wow! \$20,000 given to missions so far this year from our tithes and offering.

Wow! Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church is mission minded!

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. This program of Samaritan's Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus Christ. Our church will once again be sponsoring this mission by filling shoeboxes for the children. Collections will be received Sunday, **November 16**. For more information visit <http://www.samaritanspurse.org>.

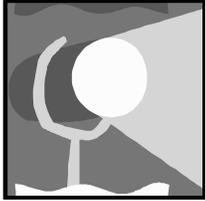
Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive - A Huge Success!

On October 19th, we had 31 potential blood donors attempt to donate and we collected 23 units of blood for those in need. Just as exciting, we had four first time donors with the Blood Alliance. Next time you see the people listed thank them for saving over 69 lives in the Jacksonville area: **Andy Andreu, Vicki Camadine, Ellen Carson, Phil deRoziere, Mike Elliott, Bob Harding, Karen Johnson, Beverly Lovings, Yolie Macon, Mike McVann, Charlene Morgan, Ashley Sabol, Carolyn Schussler, Max Stanley, Lynn Straughan, Chris Yale, Cooper Agent, Dave Branham, Don Carson, Lori Dade, Pat Durkin, Marie Hambrick, Bill Harrison, Carol Kilpatrick, Charles Lovings, Janet McVann, Bill Morgan, Loree Reed, Ron Schaffield, Sadie Snyder, and Sue Stanley.**

A Word from Wesley

Beware of foolish desire! Beware of inordinate affections! Beware of worldly cares! But, above all, I think you should beware of wasting time in what is called innocent trifling.

– *Jackson V, 68.*



Spotlight on Volunteers

Sometimes its difficult to write about just one wonderful volunteer (aren't we all wonderful when we volunteer?! Ha!)? So, three lovely ladies are being recognized this month. Hopefully, this will be a surprise to them 'cause they were all asked information about each other...

Dixie Thalmueller has been visible before Contemporary Service (but now missed) on Sunday mornings because she helps to set up chairs and the back table for our worship services. Because of her recent accident and surgery, she is now having to take time off from this duty. Dixie is still active in the Worship Committee and attends committee meetings each Friday at the church office/ministry house. Another of her volunteer 'duties' include picking up the Sunday bulletins, The Upper Room magazines and any other important information that needs to arrive at Ocean Palms Elementary for Sunday morning worship services. She is currently taking the Discipleship IV class that Jerry Sanders leads and volunteers two days each week at the Mayo Clinic interviewing and lining up musicians to play for the patients. She is a big fan of the Jacksonville Symphony and attends most concerts. She has three grown children: a daughter and two sons. She is currently keeping busy with going to physical therapy two times a week and keeping up with her exercises at home. Get well soon, Dixie, you are missed!

Norma Webster is another volunteer who is busy with several church duties! She is on the Council on Ministries, arranges for volunteer help in getting *The Wave* mailed out and the church bulletins stuffed, is a member of the Cornerstone Sunday School class and she is also an office business check signer. Until Dixie feels better, Norma has taken over Dixie's weekly duties in making sure the box of bulletins and other things to be placed on the back table get picked up, taken to worship service and taken back to the church office. Born in South Africa (that's where her cool accent comes from!) Norma is retired from Rayonier. She has two children: her son lives near Boston with one little boy and another baby on the way, and her daughter lives in Connecticut with three little girls. Norma always offers to help others who have a need; she's very nurturing and is a delight to be around.

Suvan Shine has several duties with which she helps: This year she was pleased when asked to take over the pecan sales, is the secretary of the Cornerstone Sunday School class, and has taught children's Sunday School class. She is also Ponte Vedra UMC's quiet historian who keeps collecting articles about Ponte Vedra UMC! Suvan is a regular volunteer at the TPC Community Senior Center. She is always willing to lend a hand driving others to doctor appointments or just on errands.

We are blessed to know these three ladies! They are friendly and caring and have interesting stories to tell if you ask... Together, they do many things for Ponte Vedra UMC. Please thank them for all they do!



Building
on Faith

Campaign Followup

We are now seven months into our 36-month capital campaign and have so many things for which to thank God.

All of the permits necessary to begin construction have been approved.

Final contract issues have been resolved. We expect the contract to be signed by November 1.

Our construction loan application has been approved by our lender of choice, the Florida United Methodist Foundation. We are working through the requirements to close on this loan; there are no unresolved issues to date.

As we've known for several months, the ministry house at 76 S. Roscoe must be demolished in order for the site to be prepared for building.

For midweek ministry space we have entered into agreements to rent the Palm Valley Community Center on Canal Blvd and the Senior Center on Landrum Lane.

We have begun renting the trailer at 56 S. Roscoe; it is nearly ready for use as office space. Arrangements have been made to move the offices there on November 3.

We will break ground for our new building on Sunday, November 9 at 1:00pm. This coincides with Celebration Sunday, the culmination of our fall study series. That Sunday plan to enjoy the combined 10:30am worship service, a delicious meal here, and a continuation of the celebration as we move to 76 S. Roscoe to turn over some dirt. As part of our brief service there, you are each invited to pound a stake around the perimeter of the building. It will be a holy and festive occasion!

Thank you praying for and giving in support of this ambitious project. In October *Building on Faith* surpassed the half-million dollar mark.

– Your Followup Director Team: Jim Wynn, Dave & Patricia Branham

General Fund

Building on Faith Recap

Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date	\$1,541,934
Pledges received to date	\$ 414,978
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 50,844
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 3,783
Total received to date	\$ 502,937

General Fund Recap September 2008

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 36,304
Expenses + Mortgage	\$ 45,931
Net income/(deficit)	(\$9,627)

Building Fund Recap As of October 31, 2008

Income	\$ 39,840
Expenditures	\$ 32,431
Balance	\$ 345,124

The church office is open Tuesday — Friday from 10am—2pm.

October 2008 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
10/5	86	77	\$ 6,901	\$ 3,096	\$ 142
10/12	100	69	\$ 11,958	\$ 32,275	\$ 216
10/19	78	90	\$ 5,956	\$ 3,100	\$ 80
10/26	92	90	\$ 6,865	\$ 1,369	\$ 474

Designated Totals

Building Fund	\$ 345,124
Enhancement Fund	\$ 966
Memorials	\$ 5,678

Needed Weekly 2008 General Fund	\$ 10,100
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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

Kingdom Kids Volunteers Needed

Would you like a wonderful opportunity to get to know the young people in our church? Becoming a **Kingdom Kids** volunteer makes this possible. Please call **Lynn Straughan** (806-4508) or email her at lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org to find out how you can help.



Round of Applause:

For Ruth Murta and her volunteers for providing lunch for our mission trip presentation.

For the Murta family, the Gelb family, and Cooper Agent for cooking a FANTASTIC dinner for our back to school bash!

For Steve Bohner and Allison Evans for chaperoning our Rock the Universe trip.

New location!!!! Beginning Sunday, November 16 our Sunday evening youth group will meet at the senior center, 175 Landrum Lane. Same time (5:30-8PM) but a new place!

Destination unknown (middle school only): Rescheduled!!!!!! Due to scheduling conflicts, we decided to reschedule our middle school destination unknown for Saturday, November 15. Lists of what to bring can be found on our youth group website. *Destination unknown* is a time for the students to come together and use their lists of items to complete a puzzle. I can't tell you anymore, so you will have to come to check it out!

National Youth Workers Convention...November 19-24. For almost a week our youth minister Kelly Minter will be attending a training conference for youth ministers. Keep her in prayer as God works in new ways in our youth ministry!

Wii wish you a merry Christmas...Saturday December 13. We will hold our annual Christmas and Wii party at Kelly's house from 1PM-5PM. Mark your calendars!

Church mission blitz ...December 21-23. The youth are sponsoring a church wide, three day mini mission trip. Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday will have multiple mission opportunities...morning and evening options for those with complicated schedules, lunch together, and worship together to end the day. More information will be coming soon, but contact Kelly Minter if you have mission opportunity ideas or if you want to help plan this event! kelly.minter@pv-umc.org

United Methodist Women

Our final meeting for the year will be held **Saturday, November 1 at 10:00am** at Jane Ellis' home, 117 Shelby's Cove Court, Ponte Vedra Beach. Please call 273-0094 to receive directions. Please bring a covered dish for this "Christmas in November" meeting. In lieu of any gift exchange there will be a special Church World Service love offering for "Giving Hope" from Ponte Vedra UMC/UMW. Please bring your World Thank Offering and your completed pledge commitment at this time. Check with Vera Combs (285-2854) if you need to check on the status of your pledge.

Please support Church World Service through your prayers and your monetary gifts. Their programs empower countless numbers to become self sufficient, break the cycle of poverty and be able to prepare future generations to become self reliant. Ponte Vedra UMC/UMW will forward all donations, or your checks may be mailed directly to Church World Services, 4920 Niagara Road, Suite 406, College Park, Maryland, 20740.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

I'm ready to empower children through "Giving Hope!"

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

_____ **Here is my gift of \$_____ to empower children through "Giving Hope."**

_____ **Contact me for assistance in having my congregation support "Giving Hope."**

_____ **Contact me to request a proposal to the Foundation to support "Giving Hope."**

Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church Financial Plan 2009

	<u>2008</u> Plan	<u>2009</u> Plan
Missions	25,000	37,500
Payroll & Benefits	261,400	275,200
Administration	14,800	16,600
Programs	45,800	39,000
Computer Replacements	8,200	
Worship, Office, Program, Storage Facilities	81,800	111,300
Building Fund*	50,000	14,000
Parsonage	37,200	38,300
Total	<u>37,200</u>	<u>38,300</u>
<i>Details available upon request</i>	524,200	531,900

*Reduced from 2008 by regular rent for offices at 56 S. Roscoe facility, the Palm Valley Community Center and The Players Community Senior Center

Money Matters

An occasional column on things financial

These days most people are asking themselves, “Where’s a safe place to put my money?” If you’re willing also to ask, “Where’s a *good* place to put my money?” then you should read on.

Our church is borrowing from *The Florida United Methodist Foundation* to finance the construction of our church building. Our church has also had funds on deposit with *The Foundation* while saving to purchase land and again while accruing funds with which to build. Funds on deposit are lent to churches like ours for the purposes of building. Individuals are also welcome to put their money to work in the same way. From *The Foundation* website, www.fumf.org:

Any Florida resident may open a participation account in the Development Fund with a minimum investment of \$100. Money deposited in the Development Fund earns a higher rate of interest than most commercial savings, money market or certificate of deposit accounts. Interest is accrued from the time of deposit until the time of withdrawal. Money is available, without penalty, on demand. Earnings are reported quarterly.

Investors in the Development Fund also earn the satisfaction of knowing that their money is being used to further the work of the United Methodist Church. The Development Fund, with more than \$83 million in assets, supplies low-interest loans to churches and conference agencies. Since 1976, the Development Fund has loaned more than \$120 million in loans conference-wide, with no defaults. Every loan has been repaid in full and no investor has lost a penny by investing in the Development Fund.

The interest rate is set by the Foundation Board of Directors and is subject to review and/or change on a quarterly basis.

For the present quarter the Development Fund investment rate is 3.75%. (The loan rate for churches is 5.75%.)

– Pastor Jeff

76 Roscoe Blvd: Everything Must Go

From time to time mention people have mentioned that they’d like to come out and remove some of the plants at 76 S Roscoe. Now is the time. Come on out, shovel in hand, and take what you want, first come, first served. (Do leave the massive oaks; we’re saving those. ☺) We’ll welcome gifts to the Building Fund for those so inclined.

The Trustees are including yard ornaments, gates, fences, play boats, swing sets, dog houses, flagstone, etc in this offer. You set the price for whatever treasure you find. Please leave the property in a condition safe for others.

The ministry house and other structures: See something you’d like? Most everything is available between the November 9 ground breaking and demolition day (yet to be determined). Contact Trustees Chair **John McEvoy** (280-4678, john.mcevoy@pv-umc.org) to make your request.

(Nearly) Everything Is Moving!



The pending demolition of our ministry house at 76 S. Roscoe requires us to move the ministries that have been meeting there. Days and times remain the same; only the location changes.

Tue, 11/4: **Praise Choir, Praise Band** to Palm Valley Community Center

Wed, 11/5: **C.I.A.** (Children in Action) to Palm Valley Community Center

Wed, 11/5: **YCAM** (Youth Creative Arts) to Palm Valley Community Center

Thu, 11/6: **Traditional Choir:** Palm Valley Community Center

Sun, 11/16: **H2O** youth ministry: The Players Community Senior Center

The Palm Valley Community Center is located at 148 Canal Blvd.

The Players Community Senior Center is located at 175 Landrum Ln.

Office functions are moving to 56 S. Roscoe effective November 4. Sunday morning worship remains at Ocean Palms Elementary.

Ministry Fair to be Held November 23

Ever wonder how you can get connected to a ministry within our church? Ever thought, How can I connect to mission that reaches beyond our church? From 10:30 - 11:00am Sunday morning, November 23 you'll be able to experience the breadth of ministry and mission going on in and through Ponte Vedra UMC. Visit the tables at the back of the worship space following the contemporary service or before the traditional service and check it out. You might just leave connected in a new way to what God is doing in the church and in the world!

New Member Orientation November 2

Thinking about joining Ponte Vedra UMC? Our next new member orientation is set for Sunday, November 2, from 3:00 to 5:00pm at the ministry house, 76 S. Roscoe Blvd. The group will be led by Pastor Jeff. Whether you're thinking about membership or would simply like to learn more about our church, you are encouraged to participate.

Hanging of the Greens



Joy, joy, joy, joy, joy. On Sunday, November 30 we'll gather at 7pm at Ocean Palms Elementary to decorate our worship space and sing the songs of the season during our festive "Hanging of the Greens" service. Got kids? Come early (5:30) to enjoy Christmas crafts with them.

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

I'm sitting in my office, realizing that it's time to move again. I thought we'd be here longer. It wasn't even 15 months ago that we moved from Executive Way into the ministry house at 76 S. Roscoe; now we're moving the offices to 56 S. Roscoe and half a dozen other activities to other sites.

The summer before last we took pains to make this house functional and presentable. No regrets there but the sad fact is that within weeks it will be demolished. (I'm told that one of our elementary school aged kids cried when she learned about it.) The only thing that will remain of our labors is whatever fruit the ministries here have borne.

This house can be a metaphor for our lives. It's possible for us to spend our entire lives making life nice for ourselves. But when life here is over, what remains? Eventually just dust and ashes unless we've invested ourselves in work that affects eternity. Last summer it cost us \$200 to repair the air conditioning at the ministry house. The technician suggested we spend several hundred dollars more to lengthen the life of the unit. When I told him this unit's life was ending this fall, that was the end of the conversation.

Life here doesn't last forever. It'd be a shame to blow it on what doesn't last.



PONTE VEDRA *United Methodist Church*

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Youth Minister	Kelly Minter
Children's Coordinator	Lynn Straughan
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Diane Wright

StaffEmail:

firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org