

# THE WAVE

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 5

**MAY 2009**

## *Block Party at Sawmill Lakes, May 16*



We'll be enjoying a cookout with our neighbors in Sawmill Lakes on Saturday, May 16 beginning at 4:00pm. There'll be good food and fun for adults and children alike along with games, Kitty the Clown, and a bounce house. 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. Plan now to come; we'd like every guest that day to get a sense of how much we enjoy being together.

Sawmill Lakes lies off Palm Valley Road, just south of Mickler. Turn west onto Sawmill Lakes Blvd, take the second right (onto N. Mill View Way). The clubhouse is on your left.

## *Help! I'm Still Married*

There's the wedding... and then there's the marriage. We live in an age when so many marriages don't last "as long as we both shall live." In the series now underway we're looking at what God designed marriage for and how we can make marriage good. Single? Don't tune out! This series is mostly about spiritual growth; you'll find ideas directly applicable to your life. And who knows? God may bless you in a future relationship or equip you to bless a friend with a word of wisdom. Series concludes May 31.

## *Upcoming Messages*

May 3 **Help! I'm Still Married: Following God's Script** (Ephesians 5:21-33)

May 10 **Help! I'm Still Married: Conflict** (Ephesians 4:31-32)

May 17 *Youth Sunday*

May 24 **Help! I'm Still Married: God & Sexuality... What Was He Thinking?** (Genesis 2:19-25) *Rated PG*

May 31 **Help! I'm Still Married: The Purpose of Marriage** (Genesis 1:18-25)

June 7 10:30am *Combined Worship Healing Service*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Missions Corner	2
Combined Worship Service	3
How to Transition to a New Building	4
H <sub>2</sub> O	5

#### OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
*United Methodist Church*

*Happy Mother's Day  
May 10*



## Missions Corner

### God Bless You, Servants

May God bless those of you who served Ed and Shirley on Saturday April 18. Visible that day were PVUMC'ers trimming, edging, shoveling, weeding, bagging leaves and washing down small buildings on the property.

Ed suffers with Parkinsons and heart problems; Shirley has rheumatoid arthritis. Life is hard for them right now. As people who have taken pride in their property, they appreciated our helping hands. Most importantly, they now have a connection to Christ through us. (We'll keep in touch, too.)

Thanks to **Shawn Fox** who went earlier in the week to pressure wash some of the buildings. Thanks too to **Jeff & Jill, Abby, Sophie and Spencer Bennett, John McEvoy, Hugh Nicol, Phil & Georgia, Lis, Catee and Lexie de Roziere, Sheryl Strickland and David & Leslie, Natalie and Davis Welch** for serving.

Special thanks to **Phil de Roziere** for organizing us and to **Hart Felt Ministries** for referring us to Ed & Shirley.

### Saturday Serve, June 20

Our next Saturday Serve is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, June 20**. We can get another referral for yard work from Hart Felt Ministries but perhaps you've thought of a project we might do. Would you be willing to lead a team? Contact **Sheryl Strickland** ([sheryl.strickland@pv-umc.org](mailto:sheryl.strickland@pv-umc.org)), 285-2654.

### United Methodist Women News

The next United Methodist Women meeting will be held at 10:00a.m., Saturday, May 16 at the home of Mary Lil McClure, 1000 Vicars Landing Way, #F201. Please call Mary Lil (285-8461) for directions. All are welcome to join us for a great program and fellowship. No need to bring a thing except a friend or two!

### A Word from Wesley

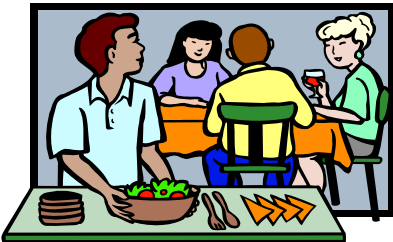
There is no height or strength of holiness as it is impossible to fall from.

– Jackson XI, 426.

## *Needed: Hart Felt Ministries Volunteers*

Loree Reed and Bette McEvoy are looking for anyone who might be interested in donating a couple of hours a week as a **Hart Felt Ministries volunteer**. Our mission is to provide at no charge, through a network of community volunteers, non-medical support services and companionship to frail elderly and other disabled adults who require assistance to live independently. **We have over 200 who are not being served.** It's all about neighbors helping neighbors, and there's nothing else quite like us in the Jacksonville and Ponte Vedra Beach area. It can be as few or as many hours as you would like to be involved. We transport clients to medical appointments, run their errands, do light housekeeping, yard work, perform minor home repairs, construct wheelchair ramps, phone calling ( just to let them know we care), respite services for family care givers, and some just love a little company. What better way to show God's love! These are our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents of our community. Let them know we care... You, too, may be one of them someday. Call us or visit our table in worship on Sunday, May 3. Blessings to you all!

## *Combined 10:30am Worship Service with Meal on June 7*



Sunday, **June 7<sup>th</sup>** we'll worship together in a combined service at **10:30am** at Ocean Palms Elementary. We'll share in a meal immediately following the service. Meat and beverage will be provided... Would you like to bring a dish to share?

The emphasis during worship will be healing; there will be opportunity for those who so desire to come forward and be prayed for for healing. We'll also recognize graduating high school seniors, celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion and likely share in a baptism as well. It will be another great Sunday in the life of our church. **Write 10:30am on your calendar for June 7 so you won't arrive early or late.** Do plan to come; we miss you when you're not there!

## *Inquirers Class*

Inquirers class will soon be wrapping up our study on Philippians. Then we continue the church wide study of this past spring - The Study of Psalms of Ascents, beginning with Psalm 123. This class meets Sunday mornings at 9:45.

## *Thank You*

Thanks to the members who have held me so earnestly in prayer. To all the e-pray-ers, a special thank you for hanging in there with me as I try to regain my strength and use of my right leg. To Willow - another special thank you for nurse delivery at a time when I really needed you!

- Debbie White & Kelsey

## How to Transition to a New Building

In last month's edition of *The Wave* we heard some surprising advice from Jim Griffith, church planting coach and author of *Ten Most Common Mistakes Made by Church Starts*. Advice like "no new initiatives for 12 months so people can enjoy the work of their hands, live into the new facility and become acclimatized to the changes necessary to inhabit the new space."

So beyond continuing to enjoy life together and reaching out to our community, what might we do? Here's an idea of Jim's:

Have a private "just us" service, celebrating all the good things God has done. Make it a night of "thank you's" and "yea God." This service is NOT for public consumption. It's for your people ONLY (no outsiders) who have given to make this a reality. Lots of inside jokes, special moments – family stuff, you get the idea. I suggest inviting dignitaries, both sacred & secular, to a more "formal" service, usually 6 - 9 months AFTER you're in the building. This should be advertised and publicized for all the public.

Sounds like a party comin' on early next year! Jim goes on to say,

You will add people by word of mouth, the new building on the site, and personal invitation at a higher rate than before. Use the 12 months to let your people breathe, return to a life of normal discipleship, get used to the new facility.

### Salty Service



**I joined Jesus  
as a  
Salty Servant  
this last week.**

Please place this in the offering plate as a sign of having offered yourself as a Salty Servant this last week.

What's that little card in the bulletin for?

We're so glad you asked!

We don't have a name for it, but if you've served beyond the local church for an hour or more in the past week, put that little card in the offering plate. There's nothing to fill out; we're simply tracking the percentage of those in attendance who have served in the past week to help us know if we're growing as salty servants.

Examples of things several of us are involved in include soup kitchen, detention center, volunteering at the hospital, Hart Felt Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, scouting, even building a relationship with someone far from Christ.

Among the things you might do, consider

- ✓ service done to make a positive difference in the lives of others that you would not have done were it not for your relationship to Christ
- ✓ service requiring hands-on, face-to-face engagement with the needs of people that you might not ordinarily come to know
- ✓ service that pushes you out of your comfort zone to make a real difference in the lives of people



## Round Of Applause



- 👍 For our church family, who helped us raise almost \$900 for our summer mission trip through their support of our annual Variety Show
- 👍 For every act that was a part of the Variety Show...you were wonderful!

## Upcoming Events

**No Youth Group** on Sunday, May 10, it's Mother's Day!

**Relay for Life**, Saturday May 16 (noon) through Sunday, May 17 (6:00a.m.). Join us to take part in raising funds for cancer research. We have formed a team for the event, so if you'd like to join us as a participant, or if you would like to donate to our team's fundraising efforts, you can either email Kelly ([kelly.minter@pv-umc.org](mailto:kelly.minter@pv-umc.org)) or you can go to [www.relayforlife.com](http://www.relayforlife.com) and click on the "join a team" or "donate" box. After entering your email address, you can search for our team (Ponte Vedra UMC youth H2O).

**Youth Sunday**, May 17. The youth will be leading worship at both services on this Sunday, through music, drama, talks, and serving, all centered around the themes of Hands and Feet. Please make sure you are there!

**Confirmation Sunday!** May 31. We will be confirming our students on Sunday, May 31. Please be there to support them and their commitment to Christ and His church!

**Senior Sunday!** June 7. We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, June 7. We will hear from them what their plans are, and pray for them on this next phase of their journey. Combined worship that day is at 10:30.

## *Financial Status*

### **Building on Faith Recap**

Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date (94 pledges)	\$1,535,434
Pledges received to date (36%)	\$ 585,894
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 61,127
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 7,930
Total received to date	\$ 688,283

### **General Fund Recap March 2009**

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 44,513
Expenses + Mortgage	\$ 33,999
Net income/(deficit)	\$ 10,514

### **Building Fund Recap as of April 2009**

Income	\$ 22,772
Loan Draws	\$110,950
Expenditures	\$119,873
Balance	\$379,620

## *April 2009 Giving & Attendance*

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
4/5	108	105	\$ 7,808	\$ 2,710	\$ 123
4/12	133	129	\$ 22,859	\$ 15,602	\$ 207
4/19	88	80	\$ 4,795	\$ 1,870	\$ 72
4/26	87	93	\$ 8,023	\$ 2,590	\$ 40

### **Designated Totals**

Building Fund	\$ 379,620
Enhancement Fund	\$ 1,066
Memorials	\$ 8,780
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2009	\$ 9,600



## *Campaign Followup*

We are now 13 months into our 36-month capital campaign. We have received **38%** of funds pledged.

Drive by 76 S Roscoe and you can see our project advancing. During May you can expect to see the tower masonry completed and the roof trusses being placed. Inside the building, structural steel for columns and stairs will be set.

We continue building on faith, grateful for every dollar given to the building fund and to the general fund for our week to week operations and missions giving. May God continue to find us faithful in every way.

Please remember in your prayers our general contractor E.C. Kenyon, also Ronald Scalisi Architects and the subcontractors on the site. May God give them wisdom and keep them safe as they build.

Thank you for your prayers and your financial support of this ambitious project.

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





*On A Musical Note*

**C.I.A. Children In Action**

Kindergarten through 5th Grade  
 Wednesdays 3:30-5:00pm  
 Palm Valley Community Center  
 148 Canal Blvd.

**YCAM**

Grades 6-12  
 Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm  
 Palm Valley Community Center

**Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm  
 Palm Valley Community Center

**Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm  
 Palm Valley Community Center



*Children In Action  
 update*

Our C.I.A. kids certainly are angels! They were adorable as angels in the Variety Show. Thanks so much to our Director, Jill Bennett and to the author of our play, Ann Torgerson. Children In Action (C.I.A.) meets Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 - 5:00 for singing, missions, acting and crafting. It's great fun!



*Mark Your Calendars: Vacation Bible School*

*June 29 - July 2*

Grab your overalls and straw hats because we are taking a trip down to the bayou this year in Vacation Bible School. The title this year is "Crocodile Dock" and it is going to be a blast! We have already started work on getting things together and we want you to be a part of this exciting event. We need help in all areas and would love to have you involved. If you are interested in helping please contact **Lynn Straughan**, 806-4508 or [lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org](mailto:lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org).

We are compiling a list of supplies that we will need your help getting together. We are so excited about Crocodile Dock and know that it will be another great VBS!

*Kingdom Kids*

All kids in K-5th grades are invited to join us each Sunday morning for Kingdom Kids. Kingdom Kids is held

during both the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services. We are still looking for volunteers. If you want to add some fun and excitement to your life and are available either the first or fourth Sunday of the month please e-mail or call Lynn Straughan (806-4508, [Lynn.Straughan@pv-umc.org](mailto:Lynn.Straughan@pv-umc.org)). This is a great way to get to know the young people in our church.

*3 & 4 Year Old Class*

Join our volunteer team and get to know the young children in our church. We are looking for volunteers to read a short Bible story to the children immediately following Children's Time at the 9:30 worship service. Please contact Lynn Straughan, 806-4508 or [lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org](mailto:lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org) if you would like to be a blessing to these children.

## A Note From Pastor Jeff:

We all have history. The places we've lived, the people we've known, the things we've done and the things that have happened to us, together they comprise our history. While we can't control what happens to us we can choose how we react and we can be proactive in moving through life. We have the opportunity to make our own history.

By every definition I can find, at age 48½ I am middle aged. (Okay, how about *early* middle age?) Maybe that's why I so often think about my life's history to this point and where I'm headed from this point. Mostly I seek to persevere in things underway— I want to finish well what I've begun. My marriage (“as long as we both shall live”), raising my children, and above all else, serving Christ. In *Sacred Marriage* Gary Thomas writes,

We live in a nation of quitters. Employees quit their jobs as soon as the going gets tough, employers quit on their employees as soon as profits dip a quarter of a percentage point. People routinely quit on their church and join another congregation at the slightest provocation. The Bible even warns that some will quit on their faith (see 1 Timothy 4:1).

In a recent message series we talked about discipleship as a long obedience in the same direction. I yearn for that to be my history. My prayer for me and my prayer for you is that ours would not be a history of fits and starts but that we would go the distance. It is our choice.

Glad to be making history with you,  
Pastor Jeff



### PONTE VEDRA *United Methodist Church*

56 S. Roscoe Blvd.  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Phone: 904-280-5141  
Fax: 904-280-0599  
[www.pv-umc.org](http://www.pv-umc.org)

#### 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](mailto:firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org)