

THE WAVE



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JUNE 2009

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Combined Worship Service, Lunch to Follow on June 7

Too often we limit what God would do through us by focusing on who we're not or on what we don't have. Yet we can be agents of God's healing with what we do have. In Acts 3:6 Peter says to a lame man begging alms, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." Healing is the emphasis of our **combined 10:30am worship service on Sunday, June 7**. All are invited to remain for lunch. The church will provide meat, beverage and bread; please bring a covered dish or dessert for the meal. (If you can't bring a dish, come anyway; we'll have plenty!)

Receiving Groceries for B.E.A.M. June 7

We'll be receiving groceries for B.E.A.M. (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) on Sunday morning, June 7th.

Recommended items include:

canned meats: chile con carne, corned beef hash, beef stew, ham/Spam, pork & beans; spaghetti sauce & pasta; canned vegetables & fruits: green beans, peas, carrots, corn, peaches, any common fruit or vegetable a child might eat; instant rice; instant potatoes; tuna helper; macaroni & cheese; peanut butter & jelly; powdered milk; canned soups

Please help this very deserving cause by bringing a bag of groceries to church June 7.

Upcoming Messages

June 7 10:30am Combined Worship

Healing Our World: Giving From What We Have (Acts 3:1-21)

June 14 TBA

– Begin the *Children's Bible Stories for Big People* series –

June 21 **Coming Home: A Father and His Two Sons** (Luke 15:11-32)

June 28 **God Speaks to Moses in a Burning Bush** (Exodus 3:12)

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist Church

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3

Missions Corner

Saturday Serve, June 20

Our next Saturday Serve is scheduled for **Saturday, June 20**. Sign up on a Sunday beforehand or contact the church office (280-5141). For more information contact team leader **Phil de Roziere** (phil.deroziere@pv-umc.org, 847.877.8878).

Block Party Thank You!

Thanks to each of you who supported our May 16 **Block Party** at Sawmill Lakes. The hospitality folks estimate that over 100 people attended; several were friends and neighbors who don't do church. We've followed up with everyone who gave us an address for the door prize drawing.

Our thanks to those of you who worked on food, decorations, setup and/or cleanup. And thanks to you who simply came to enjoy our neighbors. Special thanks to those who made a guest feel welcome and *special, special thanks to those who brought a guest*.

The New "E" Word

The old "E" word was evangelism, a word with frightening baggage for many. The new "E" word is *elbow*. Some 80% of people who visit a church, return to that church, and gradually become enfolded into that faith community, do so on the *elbow* of someone already connected to that church. **Who will you invite to worship or another church event?**

Our Youth Have Done It Again!

Our youth have done it again, and if you were in church May 17 you got to see it. They did an awesome job leading us in worship on **Youth Sunday**. Well done, youth of Sunday morning, Sunday evening H2O and Wednesday evening YCAM. This is probably dated but, **You rock!** Thank you!!

A Word from Wesley

I shall endeavor to show that Christianity is essentially a social religion, and that to turn it into a solitary religion is indeed to destroy it.

Summer Message Series



I remember my mom reading to us kids from a Children's Bible. The stories we heard are still among my favorites today. This summer we'll be hearing those same stories with grown-up ears in the message series, *Children's Bible Stories for Big People*. See you in church!

– Pastor Jeff

Christian Care Families

The Bible teaches that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. Acts 2 tells us that the early Christians prayed for one another, broke bread together and shared what they had with each other. To follow their example, especially now during these uncertain times, we are creating *Christian Care Families*. The purpose of these families will be to provide support for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of those in our church. We want to make sure that everyone who attends PVUMC feels cared for and loved.

If you are in a small group or Sunday School class, this will be your "family". We will be starting new "families" to make sure that everyone is cared for. Each family will have one or more *care captains*. This care captain will become acquainted with those in their family and let them know to call when they have a physical, spiritual or emotional need. The captain will then relay this information to those willing to help meet the need.

Right now we are looking for volunteers to be care captains. I know sometimes it gets discouraging to read the newspaper or listen to the news; it seems like the needs of the world are just overwhelming. This is a way you can do something to make a difference in someone's life right here at PVUMC. It will only take a few hours of your time each month. I guarantee you that you will be blessed. Please pray about it. If you feel that this is something God is calling you to do, please contact me, **Cecily Browning** at 285-2648, **Jerry Sanders** at 273-9993 or the church office at 280-5141. We will have a training session over the summer.

United Methodist Women

Mary Lil McClure hosted the May meeting in her home with **Jennifer Elder**, Director of the Children's Program for Community Bible Study, as guest speaker. "CBS" is interdenominational and international in scope which offers 30 week in-depth studies of the scriptures for all women and includes classes for pre-school children and home schooled children of ALL grade levels.

The next study is the Book of Acts and begins September 10. from 9:30a.m to 11:45a.m. on Thursdays. If you, or perhaps a neighbor may be interested no matter what denomination or not connected to any denomination you may call Jennifer at 543-9188 or **Dolores Harrison** at 998-1327 to pre-register or for additional information.

The next scheduled UMW meeting will be September 12 at the home of **Vera Combs**.

Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World

What does a mature Christian look like? How do we create an environment in which Christians are growing to maturity and are being about God's business of transforming the world? How do we guide people in doing what transforms them and the world around them. These questions have been buzzing around me. Here's where I am so far.

Mature Christians are

growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ,

participating in God's transformation of the world,

ministering to people at their point of need:

physical needs, through sharing their time, energy and wealth

emotional needs, through time spent be present with and listening to folks

spiritual needs, through praying with / for people, sharing their faith

working for social justice,

stewarding and renewing the creation,

contagious with their faith.

I think of this as the brochure of what we want ourselves and those who will come to our church to look like.


If that's the brochure, what's the blueprint? How do we grow people toward maturity? Well, we can't. God alone does that with people's cooperation. But we can guide people in doing their part. Consider this as a process to grow into mature Christians.

Invest an hour each week, two at the most in **worshiping God together**. The upper limit makes space for the other activities that God uses to grow us as disciples.

Participate in a grow group (e.g., a small group Bible study or a Sunday School class). **Just one group**, two at the most, so as to make space for the other elements that help move us to maturity.

Involve yourself in a ministry within the church. These include diverse activities such as leading a children's class, serving as a youth counselor, serving as an usher/greeter, or singing in the choir. Keeping in mind that some ministries require just an hour's service a month, the standard is **one hour a week**, two at the most, again leaving space for the other things that grow us up in Christ.

Connect to God's mission in the world. I titled this article, *Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World*. Transforming the world is where we followers of Jesus **spend the rest of our time**. What that looks like is as varied as the ministries within the church. Some will invest themselves primarily in meeting the needs of the poor, some in helping people work through relationship issues, some working in areas of social justice issues. **But it's my prayer that each of us would**

Continued on page 5 

invest something of ourselves in personally reaching people who are not connected to Christ through a local church. After all, making disciples isn't just about bringing each other to maturity; it's also about making *more* disciples.

“Connecting the Unconnected” has been a popular slogan around PVUMC in recent years. Maybe it's time to flesh that out. Try this on for size:

Connecting the Unconnected

Connecting to God through worship

Connecting to each other through small groups

Connecting to ministry in the church

Connecting to God's mission in the world

As the church let's invest our energy in this process of growing Christians and deploying them to join God at work in the world. No doubt this will require discipline - it's easy to load our plates with good things that keep us from the best things. This is a worthy pursuit. The world that God so loved is sorely in need of the transformation that God can bring through us.

Making disciples for the transformation of the world. It expresses rather well, I think the two teachings of Jesus known as the Great Commission and the Great Commandment:

The great commission: Go and make disciples.

The great commandment: Love the Lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself.

Our church, you and I, we are the ones to do it. Let's go.

– Pastor Jeff

Needed: Children & Youth Workers

Two of our key adult youth workers have recently moved away. **We are in great need of adults to facilitate one of the youth small groups** that meets as part of our Sunday evening H2O (Helping, Healing, Outreach) at The Players Community Senior Center. Our youth minister Kelly Minter (kelly.minter@pv-umc.org, 407.694.2167) will provide training, leadership, encouragement and support. You can be young or not so young; what matters is that you are willing to love youth.

We need adult volunteers to invest 15 minutes on a Sunday morning reading a Bible story to our older nursery kids. (We have several who are 3 or 4 years old.) This takes place in the nursery following Children's Time; our paid nursery workers are present. Do it every week, once a month, or just try it once. Contact our Children's Ministry Coordinator Lynn Straughan (lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org, 904.806.4508).

These are excellent ministry opportunities within our church. **If you've ever heard yourself saying “We need to be reaching more families, more youth, more children”** then please consider stepping forward to serve youth or children.

Financial Status

Building on Faith Recap

Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date (94 pledges)	\$1,535,434
Pledges received to date (42%)	\$ 647,796
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 63,627
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 7,933
Total received to date	\$ 752,688

General Fund Recap April 2009

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 43,485
Expenses	\$ 34,303
Mortgage	\$ 1,454
Net Income/(Deficit)	\$ 7,728

Building Fund Recap as of May 27, 2009

Income	\$ 64,951
Loan Draws	\$283,739
Expenditures	\$386,504
Balance	\$306,377

May 2009 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
5/3	98	76	\$ 11,654	\$ 56,900	\$ 821
5/10	78	82	\$ 10,356	\$ 805	\$ 31
5/17	92	90	\$ 5,279	\$ 3,197	\$ 868
5/24	72	60	\$ 8,011	\$ 4,049	\$ 26

Designated Totals

Building Fund	\$ 306,377
Enhancement Fund	\$ 1,191
Memorials	\$ 8,780
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2009	\$ 9,600



Campaign Followup

We are now 14 months into our 36-month capital campaign. We have received 42% of funds pledged.

This month we anticipate seeing the roof framing completed, the windows installed (but not the stained glass; that comes later) and the cultured stone placed on the building exterior. Metal stud framing of the interior will continue.

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
resumes in September

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

It's That Time Again



Have you been missing your **favorite hymns**? Now is the time to let me know what they are and we will sing as many as possible during the summer months of June, July, and August. There is a list in the back of the church to write them down or you can give them directly to me. Let's sing!

-- Diane Wright



Round Of Applause



- ✓ For the Gelb family, for their hard work before and during Relay for Life!
- ✓ For everyone who participated in Relay for Life, especially Lee Ann Sluder and Scott Tinsley, and their willingness to chaperone.
- ✓ For the Murta family, who cooked fantastic food during Relay for Life!
- ✓ For everyone who participated in Youth Sunday, you did a great job!!!!

Upcoming Events

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.

Beach Day, Tuesday, June 16. We will meet at Mickler's (at the bottom of the beach ramp) at 10AM, and hang out until 3PM! Bring a lunch! If you can only make it for part of the time, that's ok, come onto the beach and look to the left, we will be right there!

No Youth Group on Sunday, June 21 or 28. June 21 is Father's Day!! PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CORRECTION TO OUR CALENDAR!!

Creation June 22-29. Our annual college/high school graduate trip to the Christian rock festival in Pennsylvania.

Relay for Life, Our Team raised over \$1500 for the American Cancer Society! Great job, everyone! Let's do it again next year!!!

Youth Sunday

A special thank you to all of the youth and the youth leaders for a well done Youth Sunday. Great job! Reminder - YCAM is still meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:00pm. We will take off the month of July and resume on Wednesday, August 5th.

-- Scott Tinsley



Mark Your Calendars: Vacation Bible School

June 29 - July 2 9:00am - 12:00

Accotink Academy



Are you ready for some fun?

That's just what is in store for our young campers and adult and youth volunteers at this year's Vacation Bible School. We will take a trip to Crocodile Dock- where FEARLESS Kids shine God's light! We will visit the Bible Bayou, Crawfish Crafts and the Snack Shack, join in Gator Games, and sing at the Swamp Stomp. Registration is underway... Registration forms are available at each worship church service or you can register via e-mail to lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org with the name age, address, phone number and e-mail address of the child. (Please include the parents name as well.)

Crew Leaders Needed: Help lead our young campers as they navigate their way through the Bayou and experience this awesome opportunity to see what God is doing all around us.

Adult and Youth Volunteer Assistance Needed: Support our Lead Volunteers in everything from snacks to crafts to games. Please contact: Lynn Straughan at lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org or 904-806-4508.

As we work to transform the classrooms of Accotink Academy into our Bayou **we find we need the following:**

Camping gear: small pup tents, lanterns, small artificial Christmas trees, small bridge (for dock), frog or crocodile statues, fishing gear, straw hats, fishing vests. If you own any of these and are willing to let us borrow them for use during Vacation Bible School, please e-mail **Lynn Straughan** at lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org or call 904-806-4508.

To help us offset the cost of this wonderful Vacation Bible School experience we are looking for Crocodile Dock Sponsors: Sponsorship opportunities include: **Craft of the Day Sponsor-\$50** (4 sponsors needed); **Snack of the Day Sponsor-\$60** (4 sponsors needed); **Set Sponsor-\$75** (2 sponsors needed); **Curriculum Sponsor-\$100** (2 sponsors needed).

Kingdom Kids

All kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us each Sunday morning for Kingdom Kids. Kingdom Kids is held during both the 9:30 and 11:00 services. **We are in need of volunteers** to serve the first or fourth Sunday of the month. This is a great way to get to know the children of the church. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity please call **Lynn Straughan** at 904-806-4508 or send an e-mail to lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org.

3 & 4 Year Old Class

Join our volunteer team and get to know the young people in our church. We are looking for volunteers to **read a Bible story** to the children immediately following Children's Time at the 9:30 service. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity please call **Lynn Straughan** at 904-806-4508 or send an e-mail to lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org.

C.I.A. Children In Action

This has been a busy and exciting year in CIA. I thank **Jill Bennett** for her leadership and her creativity, and a big thank you to all the moms who brought snacks through the year. June 3 will be our last day for this season; we will resume in September.

We look forward to seeing all kids in K-5th grades on Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00pm for crafts, singing, snacks and service to our community come fall. -- Lynn Straughan



A Note From Pastor Jeff:

I'm convinced I don't get out enough. On one level, I'm okay with that. Being an introvert I can be content enjoying my family, hanging out in my small group Bible study, working on Sunday messages, ministering to and with people I already know, and participating in the occasional service project. But the Spirit of God presses me in one area in which I lack: connecting with people beyond the church.

While not all my friends are a part of PVUMC, each and every one of them is connected to a local church. In fact, even my circle of *acquaintances* includes just two people who aren't already moving closer to Jesus through a local church. This must change. When I was an engineer, I had a job that put me in touch with Christians, unChristians, even a few people who were antiChristian. Not so my present occupation!

My kids are about to present me with a golden opportunity: they're each beginning to get into extracurricular activities beyond the church. That means I can connect with other parents *if* I'm willing. I'll take that opportunity. But even that won't be enough. I'm committing to spending 5 hours of my "church work time" each week connecting with new people, seeking out those who don't know Jesus or who have fallen out of touch with him. If that's a bit unnatural for me, so what? God really does love these people and I love God enough to do what he wants me to do to reach them. I *can* reach some of them. You can too. Will you invest yourself in others? Will you invite them into God's love through our church? It's been said that the church is the only organization that exists for the people not yet in it. How true.

– Pastor Jeff



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Children's Coordinator	Lynn Straughan
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
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