

THE WAVE



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2009

Check Out the New Building and Leave Your Mark

On Sunday, August 30th we'll worship in a **combined 10:30 worship** service at Ocean Palms Elementary School and then drive over to the 76 S Roscoe Blvd site for a light lunch and the opportunity to **check out our new building**. Then we'll gather in the sanctuary for a brief service of prayer and scripture reading. All who wish may write blessings, prayers, etc. on the cement floors throughout our time there.

Since there'll be no air conditioning, dress accordingly. And bring a lawn chair or other folding chair along to 76 if you like to sit while you eat. (Though you can always sit on the floor if you like!)

Furnishing Our Facility



Like to participate in some second mile giving? Watch for a list of needed furnishings for our building to be published this month. We won't be doing any little plaques but you may like the idea of knowing, "I gave that."

More Children's Bible Stories for Big People

We're continuing our summer message series, *Children's Bible Stories for Big People*. Whether you're hearing these stories for the first time or the umpteenth time, there's a word from God to you. See you in church!

Upcoming Messages

August 2 **Joseph & His Amazing Coat; Brotherly Love? Not! But Still God Is Working**
(Genesis 37:2-36)

August 9 **For Such a Time as This: Queen Esther** (Esther 4)

August 16 **Daniel & the Lion's Den: Being Faithful, No Matter What** (Daniel 6:1-28)

August 23 **Jonah & the Whale: Running Away from God** (Jonah 1:1 - 3:3)

August 30 **The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock** (Matthew 7:13 - 7:29)

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OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist
Church

Those of steadfast mind
you keep in peace - in
peace because they trust
in you. Trust in the Lord
forever, for in the Lord God
you have an everlasting
rock.

Isaiah 26:3-4

Missions Corner

B.E.A.M. Food Pantry In Need of Supplies



This past Council on Ministries meeting revealed that B.E.A.M. (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) is extremely low on food supplies due to the tremendous increase in need. We are forming another food drive to help with restocking the B.E.A.M pantry shelves. Food collection bags will be handed out Sunday, August 23 and be **collected Sunday, August 30** for delivery. Our donations will be a blessing to those who help administer this much needed assistance to the families in need.

Change is in the Air in Cuba!

If you want to learn more about enriching our relationship with **La Sierra, our sister church in Cuba**, join us for a District meeting Sunday, August 9, at 3pm. It will be held at Orange Park United Methodist Church, Family Life Center, 2051 Park Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32073. Refreshments will be served (including Cuban coffee!). You will hear about new travel rules and details from Linda Zelenka's recent trip to Cuba. **RSVP with George Reed** at 285-3239 george.reed@pv-umc.org. You are also invited to join our *Facebook* group (Methodists United in Prayer NE District): <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=95353262755>.

Saturday Serve Moves to Monday in August

It's too blasted hot to work outside so we're indoors this month. Our church will be blessing servicemen and women and/or their families by providing the "**no dough dinner**" being served Monday, August 24 from 5 - 7pm at the Mayport USO. The menu that night will be pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, baked beans, salad bar and dessert. We expect to serve some 220 people and will need preparers and servers. Watch for a sign up sheet at the back of the worship space.

If you'd like to help underwrite the \$500 cost, make your check out to PVUMC and designate it "no dough." Any excess funds received will go to serve others through missions.

A Word from Wesley

But, although there is much advantage in long experience and we may trust an old soldier more than a novice, yet God is tied down to no rules; He frequently works a great work in a little time.

Jackson, XII, 298.

Thank You, Detention Center Servants

Over the years many from our church have served the 4th Saturday morning of the month at the St Johns Regional Juvenile Detention Center. Some shared the good news through teaching, some listened to the youth detained at the center, some prayed for and with them. Over the past five and a half years these salty servants included **Rod Zur, Janet Williams, Sue Stanley, Max Stanley, Jerry Sanders, Rusty Russillo, Mary Lil McClure, Phil Mathis, Mike Cervellera, Cheryl Bradford, Larry Bradford, and Jeff Bennett**. Some served just once, others repeatedly. A special thanks to Max & Sue Stanley who have led the effort in recent years. And to Christ the Redeemer Church who invited our participation and Cheryl & Larry Bradford who organized us at the very beginning in the fall of 2003.

Another state residential program is anticipated for this facility; we're hoping to be able to serve there. In the meantime this fine chapter of ministry for our church comes to a close. Our thanks to each of you who reached out to these youth. Look forward to your heavenly reward!

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundations of the world . . . for I was a stranger and you welcomed me, . . . I was in prison and you visited me."

– Matthew 25

Blood Drive September 20



The Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church's next blood drive is on **September 20th** from 9:00 am - 12:30pm. Why should you be thinking about it now? Because the next time the Florida Georgia Blood Alliance calls and asks you to donate a pint of blood, **PLEASE, JUST SAY NO** unless you must be away on September 20th. We are now in the 56 day window that you must wait between blood donations. If you donate a pint of blood between now and September 20th, you will not be able to support the PVUMC blood drive.

Blessings to Betty Burnham

Our hearts and prayers go out to **Betty Burnham** at the death of her husband Bob on July 3. An outdoor service will be planned when the weather grows cooler. Bob Burnham's cheerful demeanor was a regular blessing to those who participated in worship with him at the 9:30 hour.

Praying at the Site

A small group has been **praying Saturdays at 8:30am** at 76 S Roscoe since before construction began. Would you like to join us? Just come! This group's work concludes in just a few months... 8:30 - 9:15am each Saturday. Led by Pastor Jeff.

Financial Status

Building on Faith Recap

Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date (96 pledges)	\$1,534,634
Pledges received to date (43.48%)	\$ 667,304
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 66,922
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 7,935
Total received to date	\$ 775,493

General Fund Recap June 2009

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 40,979
Expenses	\$ 33,206
Mortgage	\$ 1,646
Net Income/(Deficit)	\$ 6,127

Building Fund Recap as of July, 2009

Income	\$ 10,758
Loan Draws	\$198,134
Expenditures	\$222,467
Balance	\$261,510

July 2009 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
7/5	97	56	\$ 5,235	\$ 2,335	\$ 586
7/12	96	84	\$ 12,375	\$ 1,865	\$ 841
7/19	73	56	\$ 4,515	\$ 3,715	\$ 17
7/26	84	69	\$ 6,423	\$ 2,843	\$ 1,291

Designated Totals

Building Fund	\$ 261,510
Enhancement Fund	\$ 630
Memorials	\$ 8,780
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2009	\$ 9,600



Campaign Followup

We are now 16 months into our 36-month capital campaign. We have received 43.5% of funds pledged. At 18 months our campaign consultant Cargill Associates tells us we should be at 60%; we'll need to receive an additional \$253,000 against pledges by October 1 to make that interim goal.

The building continues to progress. Roofing is nearly complete, most of the synthetic stone is in place and most of the exterior has been stuccoed. The windows have been installed save for the large stained glass window. In August installation of exterior doors should take place. Electrical and plumbing rough-in continues as does interior framing. We anticipate the underground fire pump tank being delivered this month.

We are grateful for every dollar given to the building fund and to the general fund for our week to week operations and missions giving. God is always faithful to us; may we be faithful to him 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 September 2

YCAM

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

Praise Choir

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

Traditional Choir

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

Kingdom Kids

All kids in Kindergarten through 5th grades are invited to join us each Sunday morning for Kingdom Kids. Kingdom Kids is held during both worship services. We are in need of volunteers to serve the first and fourth Sunday of each month. This is a great way to get to know the young people of our church. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity please call **Lynn Straughan** at 904-806-4508 or send an email 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 9:30am worship 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)

Mark your calendar for Monday, August 3! Grab your swimsuit and come down to Turtle Shores. The fun begins at 10:30am. RSVP to **Lynn Straughan** at lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org, 806-4508.

Our C.I.A. program will resume September 2. We look forward to seeing all kids in Kindergarten through 5th grades on Wednesdays from 3:30 - 5:00pm for crafts, singing, snacks and service to our community.

Service Opportunity



August 13 at Beach United Methodist Church for kids 4 years old through 5th grade. Help sort back to school items. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful service project please contact **Jill Bennett** at jill.bennett@pv-umc.org, 285-2134.

Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World

How do we make Christians who 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, and
contagious with their faith?

Well, we can't. God alone does that with people's cooperation. But we're responsible for making space for God to work. Here's a good recipe:

Invest an hour each week, two at the most in **worshipping 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 one 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 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.

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. Let's go!

– Pastor Jeff



Round Of Applause



- 👍 For Yolie Macon and Matt Straughan and their leadership on our mission trips.
- 👍 For all of our church family, who made the trips possible.
- 👍 For each of our students who are dedicating a week of their summer to being in service to others

Upcoming Events:

Stock Holder's Lunch Sunday, August 23 immediately following the Traditional worship service. We will offer lunch to anyone interested in hearing about the youth mission trips. Lunch is free for stock holders and we are asking for a \$3 per person (\$10 family) donation from anyone who is not a stock holder.

Back to School Bash Sunday, August 30, 5:30pm - 8:00pm. We will be holding our annual back to school bash at The Players Senior Center on Landrum Lane. Families and friends of students are encouraged to attend. Dinner, games and worship included.

Rock the Universe September, 11 - 13. \$90/person plus the cost of meals in the parks. This is one of our biggest events all year and spaces run out quickly. A \$30 deposit will hold your spot, so sign up and get your deposit in today! We meet at 56 S Roscoe Blvd at 4:30pm on Friday and return by 6:00pm Sunday evening.



Y.C.A.M. News

Let the fun begin!

Y.C.A.M. (Youth Creative Arts Ministry) starts back on Wednesday, August 12. All 6th through 12th grade youth who would like to sing or play with the youth praise band, this is the night for you. Do you like to act? We even do drama! If this sounds like loads of fun, just show up and bring a friend. Dinner starts at 6:00pm at the Palm Valley Community Center. For more information contact **Scott Tinsley** at scott.tinsley@pv-umc.org or call 463-3791.

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

On June 30 I got a taste of heaven. I'd been invited to a luncheon at the St Johns Regional Juvenile Detention Center by **Max & Sue Stanley** who have each month led our volunteers in ministering to the youth incarcerated there. I knew the state was closing the center but I was still shocked by what I encountered.

To get into the detention center you identify yourself to get buzzed in. Then you go through a metal detector, sign in, show your id and surrender your car keys to the guard. They unlock the first door where you have the metal detector wand run over you. Then you pass through three more locked doors. But on June 30 every single door was unlocked; all but one stood wide open. No longer was anyone held captive there. You could walk right in and right out again. What's more, there was a large table set with all kinds of food for the party.

We usually think of heaven as a place we go, but in Revelation heaven comes to earth. And as I understand it, the kingdom of heaven that Jesus talks about is supposed to be coming right here, right now, through us. On that last day of June I felt our call to "set the captives free" from heaven's perspective. This is what life is supposed to be like here. Prisons of all kinds standing empty because people are choosing God's freedom over slavery to sin and death.

The youth who'd been at this detention center were simply relocated to the center in Duval County; our work is far from finished. But what a marvelous picture of what is to come, and what a wonderful incentive to make that glimpse of heaven reality in the lives of as many people as we can reach for Jesus.

Heavenly minded for much earthly good,
Pastor Jeff



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