

THE WAVE



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2010

Service of Consecration and Celebration

We will consecrate (declare or set apart a building, area of ground, or specific spot as holy) our **new building** at our 9:30 and 11:00 worship services on **Sunday, February 28**. Participating in worship that day will be our district superintendent the Reverend **Tim Smiley**. Don't miss this special event in the life of our church.

The following Friday we'll continue the celebration with a meal at 6:30pm and photos and stories of the building's design and construction. Place on your calendars "**Building 76 - The Stories**". The date is **Friday, March 5 at 6:30pm**.

Scout Sunday

Sunday, February 14 is Scout Sunday. To the children, youth and adults of our congregation who are involved in Scouting: **please wear your uniforms to church that day**. We want to honor you. That morning we'll see some of the Scouts of Troop 288 serving us. We look forward to welcoming them and their families as they join us in worship!

Ash Wednesday

 Ash Wednesday is the name given to the first day of the season of Lent, in which the pastor applies ashes to the foreheads of Christians. The ashes remind us of the most bitter fruit of our sin: death. We are also reminded of our need to repent (turn from sin and toward God) and to receive the good news that through Jesus Christ there is forgiveness for sin. Ash Wednesday, like the season of Lent, is never mentioned in the Bible; Christians are free either to observe it or not. We will be offering the service at **7:00pm** on **Wednesday, February 17**.

Upcoming Messages

What the Church Believes... And Why It Matters series continues...

February 7 **The Holy Spirit** (John 14:15-27)

February 14 **Our Identity: Dignity and Depravity** (Genesis 1:24 - 2:4 and 3:1-13)

February 21 **Becoming Whom God Intends Us to Be** (Romans 3:9-31, 8)

February 28 **Life Together: The Church** (Acts 2, Ephesians 4:1-16)

March 7 **Hope for the Future** (2 Peter 3:3-14)

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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

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1

Missions Corner

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 7, our youth will be participating in the **Souper Bowl of Caring**, which is a national event where youth turn super bowl weekend into a drive for service and caring. Bring a canned food item (like soup, hence the name) to worship on that Sunday, and we will be there to collect them. All donations will go to BEAM (Beaches Emergency Aid Ministry).

Dollars to Haiti

Between January 17th and 24th we received and passed along **\$2,280 to earthquake relief in Haiti**. (The organization through which we work is UMCOR, United Methodist Committee on Relief.) Thank you. Thanks too to those who have given online to UMCOR and who have given through other organizations. May God bless each of you who has given and continues to give to those suffering in that country.

Food to Haiti

Looking for a hands-on way to serve in Haiti? We received a call from Rev. Tom Walker of Palms Presbyterian Church inviting us to participate in an ecumenical effort to **pack 142,000 meals into a container bound for Haiti**. Volunteers (age 14 and over only) must register in advance for one of three 2-hour shifts by phoning Donna Brown, 246-6427. Three shifts of 200 people each are planned for February 6 between 9:00am and 3:00pm at **Palms Presbyterian**, 3410 3rd Street South, Jacksonville Beach.

Change for Cuba Is Under Way!

Each week, any coins deposited in the offering plate will go into our **Change for Cuba** fund and be used to further our mission work with our Cuba sister church, la Sierra. Please clean out your pockets and pocketbooks for our important outreach. Please be praying for **George and Loree Reed** as they travel to Cuba February 4.

A Word from Wesley

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote

But perhaps one might say (desiring any who are taught of God to correct, to soften or strengthen the expression), the testimony of the Spirit is an inward impression on the soul, whereby the Spirit of God directly “witnesses to my spirit that I am a child of God;” that Jesus Christ hath loved me, and given himself for me; that all my sins are blotted out, and I, even I, am reconciled to God.

Works I, 274.

Thank You, Scouts!

Thank you, scouts of **Troop 288** for assembling the shed at the back of our property. We appreciate you and the ways in which you've served us. Troop 288 is chartered by PVUMC and meets at the church each Monday evening at 7:00pm. We're glad you're here!

Eagle Scout Project - Carson Basye

Carson Basye is working toward scouting's highest rank: Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout project he's chosen is the refurbishing of an information kiosk at the Guana River State Park. The kiosk is located on the yellow trail in the freshwater marsh; it requires a new roof, new flooring/ramp, new display boxes, and a new bench. Materials for the project are estimated at \$3,200 with Carson and the scouts he will lead volunteering some \$1,300 worth of labor. If you would like to help fund this project, make your check out to PVUMC and designate it **Scouting - Basye**.

United Methodist Women

Plans are underway for a **garage sale/bake sale** at Ponte Vedra UMC. It will be held **Saturday, April 17** from 9:00am to 4:00pm in the church parking lot. All proceeds to be used to fund United Methodist Women 2010 Mission Projects. Tables will be available to rent for a fee of \$20.00. To rent tables please call Ann Krawiec at 280-1664. We ask for your participation, generous support and prayers. More on the garage sale in next month's Wave newsletter.



United Methodist Women member **Ann Krawiec**, a gifted jewelry designer has offered to donate a generous portion of the proceeds from a **jewelry sale** at her home on **Saturday, February 6** to United Methodist Women mission projects. If you would like to view her treasures but this is not a good date, any member of the congregation, their family and friends may call her and she will accommodate them any day during the first week of February. Her phone number is 280-1664.

Our next UMW meeting will be March 10th. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Helping in Difficult Economic Times

Many in our church are helping family and friends who are struggling with hard times. God bless you. With gifts of food and cash our church helps neighbors we don't know through BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) and neighbors without a home through Mission House. **If you find yourself in need**, please contact Pastor Jeff. While we may not be able to provide everything you need, we want to be faithful in caring for our church family in whatever way is appropriate.



Campaign Followup

At 22 months into our 36-month *Building on Faith* capital campaign, we have received nearly **65%** of funds pledged. Well done, church! And what a joy to be worshipping in the new building.

To those who have pledged to the *Building on Faith* capital campaign, please continue to give against those pledges. (And thank you very much for what you've given to date.) To those who have so freely given to the building fund outside the campaign, we thank you too!

The final draw from the construction loan is anticipated within days to pay the general contractor for completion of the work. The balance of the loan will be a bit less than the \$3 million available to be borrowed. Now we set about reducing the sum of that loan.

The terms of our loan require us to pay interest only for the next 12 months; following that period the balance of the loan will be amortized over 19 years and we will be paying both principal and interest.

Every gift now given to *Building on Faith* or the building fund reduces the principal we owe as well as the interest we pay today *and* the interest we'll pay over the next 19 years. To lessen the burden of debt on those coming alongside us now and those who will follow us all is an incredible gift to them; it will allow the church of the next generation to focus more greatly on bringing the good news to their generation.

While *Building on Faith* does not conclude until April 1, 2011, you who are able might consider **prepaying the balance of your pledge** to immediately reduce the principal of the loan and the interest due each month.

Those of you who have become a part of our congregation since the launch of the campaign two years ago, might you also give a special gift to reduce the debt? Designate your gift "Building Fund."

Above all, **receive the thanks of a grateful church for each dollar given**, many of which have been given sacrificially. And we thank and praise God who has brought us this far on our journey. While the building is now built, may God bless us to continue building his church.

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

Financial Status

Building on Faith Recap as of 01.27.2010

Project Cost	\$ 3.8 million
Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date (96 pledges)	\$ 1,534,634
Pledges received to date (65.21%)	\$ 1,000,759
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 112,742
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 4,418
Total received to date	\$ 1,151,251

General Fund Recap December 2009

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 65,647
Expenses	\$ 43,303
Mortgage	\$ 1,740
Net Income/(Deficit)	\$ 20,604

Building Fund Recap as of January 27, 2010

Income	\$ 98,247
Loan Draws	\$ 0
Expenditures	\$ 7,086
Balance	\$ 293,879

January 2010 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
1/3	83	111	\$ 8,631	\$ 1,595	\$ 100
1/10	111	140	\$ 13,172	\$16,713	\$ 75
1/17	101	140	\$ 33,774	\$ 1,172	\$ 1,640
1/24	151	167	\$ 7,580	\$11,360	\$ 2,435

Designated Totals

Building Fund	\$ 293,879
Enhancement Fund	\$ 594
Memorials	\$ 8,780
General Fund	\$ 11,395
Needed Weekly 2010	\$ 11,395

Further Notes on Financing the New Building

Ralph Snyder, Chair of Finance

The land on which the church has been built was paid for in full through our first capital campaign, *A Journey of Faith*. The cost of the land was \$1.275 million dollars. Because of your generosity, we began construction with no money owed on the land.

The cost of the new church building is \$3.8 million dollars.

Pledges on the present campaign total 1.5 million dollars

Approximately \$500,000 of the amount pledged remains to be paid between now and the conclusion of *Building on Faith* April 1, 2011.

Loans to Build the Church - Approximate balances as of February 1, 2010

Loan A - \$900,000 @ 3.75% interest rate

Loan B - \$2,100,000 @ 4.25% interest rate

The interest rates can and probably will increase during the life of the loans.

Payment Schedule - From February 1, 2010 through February 1, 2011 interest only is required to be paid on the two loans.

Loan A \$900,000 @ 3.75% equals \$2,812.50 per month (interest only)

Loan B \$2,100,000 @ 4.25% equals \$7,437.50 per month (interest only)

Total monthly interest only payments equal \$10,250.

(For purposes of comparison, the monthly payment on rent and improvements at Executive Way was \$15,335 when we moved out in 2007.)

For the remaining 19 years of the 20 year loan period, both interest and principal are to be paid on both loans. The monthly payment amounts due beginning February 1, 2011 will depend on the principal amounts unpaid on February 1, 2011.

In order to reduce the principal balances on these two loans as quickly as possible (and reduce the interest paid on the loans), we ask everyone who can to prepay their remaining pledge amounts. We ask those who've not pledged to give what they can to further reduce the principal of the loans.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters. Even if we simply fulfill the outstanding *Building on Faith* pledges in a timely manner, your Finance Team believes we'll come out okay. But what a tremendous opportunity we have in the months ahead to reduce payments of the next 19 years!

Finally, thank you for your faithful giving toward both the building and the general budget of Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church. Without the sacrificial gifts of so many we would not be in the place to which God has brought us today. Praise God!



On A Musical Note

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 7:00-8:30pm

Children's Corner



Thank you! So many of you have been so helpful to me during my recent ankle surgery. Your thoughts and prayers were greatly appreciated.
-- Lynn Straughan

Kingdom Kids and the 4 & 5 year old classes meet each Sunday during both worship services. **C.I.A.** (Children In Action) meets each Wednesday from 3:30 - 5:00pm. Come join us!



Mark your calendar for our movie event, Saturday, February 20, 4:00 - 6:00pm. We'll enjoy pizza, popcorn and pop!

How to Face the New Year

Face it with an open Bible.

Face it with confidence in Jesus Christ, your Lord and Savior.

Face it resolved to stand by your church.

Face it with your heart right with God.

Face it with a resolution to witness to others who need to profess Christ as Lord and Savior.

Face it with a prayer that God will direct your footsteps throughout the entire year.



Round Of Applause



- 👍 For the students who participated in the Teens 101 panel! Thank you for shedding some light on youth culture.
- 👍 For all of the church members and parents who attended Teens 101
- 👍 For the Ashley and Tucker and their leadership on our Busch Gardens Trip

Upcoming Events

Mission Blitz Story!!!! We were starting our last day of Mission Blitz and heading downtown to work with Dignity-U-Wear. We decided to make up lunches out of our extra food and hand them out to anyone we met who was hungry. And we had a LOT of food 😊. Once down town we noticed we weren't seeing people gathering in the places they would normally have been (if you remember it was COLD that week). So I asked someone at D-U-W where we should go to find folks who may want a lunch, and he suggested asking the folks at Trinity Rescue Mission. So, off I went, intending to ask them for a location where the students and I could meet some folks and give them some food. When I arrived, however, I was sent over to the men's side of the shelter, since the women were extremely busy. At the help desk I introduced myself and told them I was part of a youth group with two boxes of ready made lunches that we wanted to pass out. The man stopped and looked at me, then asked "do you have a plan for those?" I replied no, and his face broke out in a grin, and he informed me that they were planning on serving lunch in about an hour, and didn't have enough food. **How is that for being an answer to prayer 😊!** Thank you to everyone who helped with mission blitz 2009!!!!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT February 12 - 14 in Kissimmee, Florida. We will join other United Methodist youth groups from across Florida for the weekend to explore how every student can be a leader in their own lives and schools. \$70/person plus food for the weekend.

Do you want to try a different type of worship experience? In the months of January and February, the youth Sunday school classes will be combining to explore the idea of "experiential worship," and investigate the principles of worship...why do we do what we do and how do we focus on God during worship and not ourselves? Would you like to try this with us? Come to the Youth Room at 11:00am any Sunday during January and February!



Toiletries for BEAM

The Inquirer's Class is continuing to **collect small toiletries for BEAM**. If you have any travel size soap, shampoo, toothpaste, tooth brushes, bandaids, lotion, etc., please place them in the box outside our classroom on the second floor, by door 209. We will see that they are delivered to BEAM. This is such a meaningful outreach to those who have no place to call home. A clean body, hair, and teeth make a world of difference to these people. Thank you for your assistance in this out reach ministry.

We are wrapping up our study on **Angels**. Feel free to join us. We meet in Room 209 at 9:45 am. Sunday mornings. There's room for you!

Traveling Tuesdays: Our Tuesday evening group meets in various homes on Tuesday night, beginning at 7:00pm, for Bible Study. Contact Dotty Rashba at 273-0527 for information on the

Bible Study for Beginners



Jerry Sanders is beginning a Wednesday evening study that will help you gain in knowledge of the Bible. This hour-long study begins **Wednesday, February 24 at 7:00pm**. Let us know if you think you'll come to check it out by phoning or emailing Susan Bowler (280-5141, susan.bowler@pv-umc.org). Also, we're arranging for **childcare**. Let us know if you'll need it!

Lay Servant Ministries

Lay Servant Ministries of our district will be offering courses on **February 26 & 27**. **The basic course** invites participants to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in discipleship. It offers guidelines for best practices as a church leader and outlines a number of ministries in which lay speakers may assume roles. Cost: \$30.

Those who have already completed the basic course may take an **advanced course** offered at the same time that is designed to help lay servants become versed in how to teach and lead a Bible study. Cost: \$30.

Friday 2/26 from 6:30 – 9:00pm continuing Saturday, 8:30am - 4:00pm. Contact Susan Bowler in the office (280-5141, susan.bowler@pv-umc.org) for the brochure or Gwen Dubé (904.751.4912, ggdube@comcast.net) directly. **Deadline for registration is February 19.**

*A Note From
Pastor Jeff:*

Someone tried to convert me last night.

I'm part of this men's Bible study that meets every other week. None of these guys is a member of PVUMC though all happen to be United Methodist. All except one; he's a member of a church of another denomination who joined our Bible study a few months back. And that's the guy who tried to convert me (the whole group of us, really) to his brand of Christianity.

When it became apparent what he was doing, I asked him point blank if he had joined our Bible study in order to convert us. He admitted that he had. I'm angry about that. What adjective might I use to describe his actions... Duplicitous, deceitful, beguiling, two faced? I thought we were journeying together through the very challenging book of Revelation, growing closer to Christ and each other along the way. Turns out he just wanted us to buy into his view of the Bible and the "proper" practice of the Christian faith.

As I drove home I got to thinking about how we who have a passion for sharing Christ should relate to people who are not Christians. I hope we'll be willing to walk with them, listening to and respecting them as we travel together. And I hope we won't pretend to be anything other than who we are.

Authentically yours,
Pastor Jeff



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*United Methodist
Church*

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Children's Coordinator	Lynn Straughan
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
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