

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 6

**JUNE 2010**

## Welcome Back, Pastor Jeff

Welcome back from your Spiritual Renewal Leave. You were missed! Our thoughts and prayers have been with you and your family. We hope you return feeling refreshed in many ways. It will be wonderful to hear about your travels, adventures and experiences as you journeyed with friends, family and God.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Missions Corner	2
Welcome New Members	5
Financial Status	9
H <sub>2</sub> O	11

## Vacation Bible School, July 19 - 23



We're setting sail this summer for VBS fun! Feel sea spray on your face as sails snap overhead. You and your crew will experience the deep rolling waters of God's love. Join us for our **High Seas Expedition!** All kids 4 years through completed 5th grade are welcome to join the fun from 9:00a.m. to noon, July 19 - 23.

We are in need of **volunteers** in all areas. A volunteer training will be held **Sunday, July 13, 5:00 - 6:00p.m.**

If you are interested in helping please contact **Lynn Straughan** at 904.806.4508 or email [lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org](mailto:lynn.straughan@pv-umc.org). Stay posted for a list of supplies we will need to start collecting.

### OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
United Methodist  
Church

## 40 Days of Love a Great Success!

Our thanks to the team who planned and prepared us for *40 Days of Love* and to each of the small group leaders who facilitated this aspect of our journey together. Thanks of course to **Dr. Jimmy Jones** for preaching the message series. And above all we thank God who gives us growth in Christ!

## Olde Fashioned Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social



**Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** we'll gather in the sanctuary to sing your favorite classic hymns and enjoy some special music too. Then it's *I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream!* Participating with us that evening will be our brothers and sisters from Sawgrass Chapel. Great singing, great fellowship, great fun!

## Missions Corner

### B.E.A.M.

**Beaches Emergency Aid Ministry** (B.E.A.M) grocery bags were handed out Sunday, May 30. Please fill them and bring them back to church on **Sunday, June 6**. This drive we are asking for much need toiletry items. Thank you for your help in this very deserving cause.

Feminine products	Toilet paper	Toothpaste
Tooth brushes	Deodorant	Shampoo
Conditioner	Soap (Bar or Liquid)	Lotion
Razors	Mouthwash	Hair combs
Hair brushes	Diapers, size 4,5	

### Lending to the Poor

In the September 2009 edition of *The Wave* I wrote about a loan I made to a woman in Africa. In August I lent \$25 to **Margaret Sewanyana Nalongoa**, a citizen of **Uganda**. Seven others joined me so that the field partner (an organization experienced in microfinance in Uganda) could disburse \$200 to her. Margaret is a 42-year-old widow with five children, aged between 13 and 18, all of whom go to school. Margaret owns a small restaurant with an average of 30 customers a day; she works six days a week. She used the loan to buy more bananas and rice, aspiring to see her business grow.

Margaret has repaid her loan over the eight months. That \$25 I lent her was made available for me to lend again. I decided to increase my “loan portfolio” by adding funds and then making two new loans.

**Samar Gull** leads a group in **Afghanistan** in the business of sewing quilts. The group is using my loan to buy some essential materials like needles and cloth for her business, helping to expand that business.

**Daniel Niyonsenga** has owned a shop in **Rwanda** for two years, selling products like cooking oil, water, juice, soap and so on. Daniel is using my loan to purchase more products which will allow him to earn more profits. With this loan Daniel expects to increase the number of staff in his business.

How did I connect with Margaret, Samar and Daniel? Through **Kiva** ([www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org)), the world’s first person-to-person micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend directly to unique entrepreneurs around the globe. Kiva’s mission is to connect people through lending for the sake of alleviating poverty.

Organizations can’t lend through Kiva, only individuals. **Would you like to join me in lending some of your resources to a person or group?** Sign on with Kiva and consider joining our team, aptly named *Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church*. (Team membership presently stands at 1. ☺) It would be fun to see how much of a difference together we could make, \$25 at a time.

– Pastor Jeff

## *2010 Annual Conference Offering in support of Haiti and hungry children of Florida*

Each year clergy and lay members of The United Methodist Church in Florida gather for “annual conference.” One of the features of the June 10-12 Florida Annual Conference Event (in Lakeland this year) is a special offering.

In keeping with this year’s annual conference theme, “Transforming the World by Eradicating Extreme Poverty” 80% of this year’s offering will go *The Methodist Church in Haiti* as they seek to rebuild lives and churches. The remaining 20% will go toward *Florida Impact for the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger* of which The Florida Conference is a member. The goal is to make Florida the first state in the nation to end childhood hunger.

For more information, read the letter from our bishop, Timothy Whitaker at

[http://pv-umc.org/2010\\_ac\\_offering.pdf](http://pv-umc.org/2010_ac_offering.pdf)

To participate in this offering, make your gift payable to Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church and designate it “AC Offering.” Please remit the gift by Sunday, June 6 so that it can be included in the offering at annual conference that week.

– Pastor Jeff

## *Hart Felt Ministries and the Winn-Dixie Jacksonville Open*



Hart Felt Ministries announces the Winn-Dixie Jacksonville Open, October 18 - 24, at the TPC Sawgrass - Dye Valley Course. As a nonprofit organization, Hart Felt Ministries has been invited to be a beneficiary of the proceeds of your choosing when purchasing the tournament tickets. For more information on the golf tourney go to [www.pgatour.com/2009/h/10/21/jacksonville.2010](http://www.pgatour.com/2009/h/10/21/jacksonville.2010). For advance tickets on line please visit [www.hartfelt.org](http://www.hartfelt.org). The cost is \$25 for the week which is 50% off the Gate gas station price of \$50. Price includes parking, entrance to the clubhouse and its eating facilities, plus children under 18 are admitted free. Hart Felt will receive one hundred percent of the proceeds if you choose them as your charity. Questions? Please contact Bette McEvoy at [bette.mcevoy@pv-umc.org](mailto:bette.mcevoy@pv-umc.org).

## *Costa Rica Mission Trip*

Are you ready to take the next step and go on a mission trip? PVUMC would like to take a group to San Ramon, Costa Rica, in August. We would stay at the mission site of Faithful Servant Missions ([www.faithfultservantmissions.org](http://www.faithfultservantmissions.org)) and work with children and youth. There will also be construction opportunities. Please contact Cecily Browning (285-2648 or [cecily.browning@pv-umc.org](mailto:cecily.browning@pv-umc.org)) if you are interested in going or just like more information. We will have a planning meeting in June.

## United Methodist Women

Carol Ide was the guest speaker at our May meeting. It was a very informative program on the Shoebox Missions. This program was established in 2003 to support troops deployed overseas. There are approximately 1000 care packages sent every week to troops in the field. The Wounded Warrior program is to help injured troops transition from front line to a medical facility. Christmas stockings are made and stuffed for Christmas. Each package has a handwritten note enclosed. We have a basket in the back of the sanctuary marked "Christmas In July" "Operation Shoebox". Please place your items in this basket. Also provided are patterns and instructions for making Christmas stockings, ditty bags, and troop helmets.

Heat resistant candy	Baby wipes	Feminine hygiene products
Fruit breezes (throat drops)	Hairbrushes	Q-tips
Disposable razors	Twizzlers	Chewing Gum
Shampoo (small)	Sunscreen (small)	Non-aerosol bug spray
Pens	Stamps	Envelopes
Writing paper	Magazines	Paper back books
Fly swatters	Small flashlights	Small fans
Dental floss	Mouthwash (small)	Toothpaste (small)
Toothbrushes	Phone cards	Ziplock bags
Batteries	Coffee packets	Coffee creamer packets
Shoe insole cushions	Sugar packets	Pop tarts
Beef jerky	Mints	CD fanny packs
Lollipops	Energy bar (Clif or Balance)	Disposable cameras
White athletic socks	Sunglasses (black non-designer)	Bar soap
Dry packaged lemonade	Hot sauce (no glass containers)	Small stuffed animals
Funnies	Puzzle pages (from newspaper)	

The Quilting Circle has note cards for sale. These cards have a picture of the Friendship Quilt on the front. Proceeds to be used to buy batting and other supplies needed to make quilts.

Our next meeting of the Ponte Vedra UMW is **Saturday, July 10 at 10:00a.m.** in Room 207. All women of the church are welcome. Please come and bring a friend.

## Church Directory

The Lord has blessed us with many new members and attendees since we last had a church directory done when we were on Executive Way. We would like to do another one this fall but need someone or a team willing to take on this task. We are looking at having it as both a hard copy and an on-line version. We were thinking about having one where people could submit their own pictures. If you would be willing to work on this, please contact Cecily Browning at 285-2648 or [cecily.browning@pv-umc.org](mailto:cecily.browning@pv-umc.org).

## Welcome, New Members!

On March 21 we were pleased to receive into membership:



Gary, Joye & Timmy Christiansen

Joye is originally from West Virginia and Gary from Nebraska. They have resided in Ponte Vedra Beach for 20 years. Their son Timmy attends Landrum Middle School and is active in our Scout Troop. As a family they enjoy boating, knee-boarding and camping.



Fran and Jim Hutchinson

Jim and Fran have resided in Ponte Vedra Beach since 1994. Jim is originally from DeLand, Florida and Fran from Mississippi. They enjoy golf, snow skiing and reading.

Welcome to our church family!

## New Member Orientation

**Interested in joining Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church?** Or just learning more about us? Pastor Jeff will be leading an orientation on **Sunday, June 13** from **3:00 to 5:00pm**. Call or email our administrative assistant Susan Bowler (280-5141 x12, [susan.bowler@pv-umc.org](mailto:susan.bowler@pv-umc.org)) to let us know you're coming.

## *A Note From Dr. Jimmy Jones*

### *“Goodbye and Hello”*

Life is full of goodbyes and hellos. Some are painful, some are pleasurable, but they are all part of life’s journey. As your guest pastor for the 40 Days of Love, I said “Hello” to you on Sunday, April 18 with the “Love Matters Most” message. On Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, I said “Goodbye” to you as we finished our forty days together by looking at “The Eight Habits of Loving Relationships”.

Seven years ago, I said “Hello” to someone who would become a very close friend of mine. You may know him. He’s your pastor, Jeff Bennett. For the last six years, we’ve had coffee together on a weekly basis. Well, except for family vacations, conferences or just plain work. We’ve shed tears, laughed together, challenged each other, and most of all, loved each other.

At the end of June, I will say “Goodbye” to Pastor Jeff and to the community of Ponte Vedra and “Hello” to Sanford First United Methodist Church. I will be their new lead pastor. While our weekly coffees may now turn into a monthly ritual (after all, Sanford is only a little under two hours from here), my friendship with your pastor will never say “Goodbye”.

In a sense, Jeff and I will always be joined at the spiritual hip. As a pastor, saying “Hello” to God means saying “Goodbye” to someone else. Sometimes, it is even a friend you love deeply. Well, Jeff, you understand what I am saying. Of course, the best is yet to come! One day, we’ll both say “Goodbye” to this life and “Hello” to the next. I hope you’ll be able to join us for coffee then.

Shedding a tear or two for “Goodbyes” and “Hellos”,

Pastor Jimmy



## *Thank You*

**A huge thank you goes to Cooper Agent and his 40 Days of Love Team - Dotty Rashba, Bob Spooner and Ada Elliot, for their excellent leadership in planning and executing this study. Thank you to all the 40 Day small group leaders, participants and especially **Pastor Jimmy Jones** for a most successful study series. I know that God has worked in our lives personally and as a church through this study. May we all continue to grow in our love for God and each other. **Love definitely matters most!****

If you missed seeing **PVUMC’s 40 Days of Love DVD** at the Celebration, there are several extra copies available. Just let Cooper know. Cooper did an awesome job of putting it together! Look out, Hollywood!

-- Cecily Browning  
Lay Leader

P.S. Please complete a *40 Days of Love* questionnaire, available on the table in the lobby. We want your feedback!

**Keep On Giving The Love To Others!**

A successful 40 Days of Love church wide study was concluded with a fabulous Celebration Gathering: breaking of bread, hymn sing, and personal testimonies. Thanks to all who attended each week, participated in small groups, and performed acts of service to others.

As you continue to reach out to others **please consider the following act of love to members of our church**; volunteering to clean up the coffee area after the 11:00 service. This can be done by an individual, a couple, or some friends, working together. With two people working it takes approximately 10 minutes and includes washing the coffee pots and plates, putting away the creamers, sugar and stirrers, and placing any extra food in the refrigerator. It is not a difficult job, but an important one. If you would be willing to volunteer for one Sunday every month, or every other month, or once in a blue moon, please contact Dotty Rashba at 273-0527 or [dotty.rashba@pv-umc.org](mailto:dotty.rashba@pv-umc.org). Attached is a list of the Sundays to the end of the year (so you to check your schedule for golf dates and Jaguar games J). If you include your e-mail or phone number I'll give you a reminder the week before your turn! Thank you for considering this important part of service to others in our church.

**Calendar for Coffee Clean Up**

June 6 filled	July 4	Aug 1 filled	Sept 5 filled	Oct 3	Nov 7	Dec. 5
13	11	8	12	10	14	12
20	18	15	19	17	21	19
27	25	22	26	24	28	26
		29		31		

Dotty Rashba

Small Group Coordinator



**Welcome, Diane Solms!**



Call the office the first week of June and you'll hear the voice of **Diane Solms** who is filling in for our administrative assistant **Susan Bowler** while Susan is on vacation. Your Staff Parish Relations Committee has been at work to ensure that people are in place to cover critical job functions of staff members who need be away. We're delighted that Diane has made herself available to us on an as-needed basis to cover for Susan. Thank you, Diane, and welcome!

**A Word from Wesley**

One definition of holiness is to be set apart for God, for God's purposes. The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote,

But we must love God before we can be holy at all; this being the root of all holiness.

– Works I, 274.

Are you living out love toward God? Toward your neighbor?



## Campaign Followup

At 26 months into our 36-month *Building on Faith* capital campaign, we have received nearly **76%** of funds pledged. Well done, church!

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!

At present we're required to pay interest; principal payments are optional. Beginning in January 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 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

## Finance Committee

The job of the Finance Committee is to identify, perfect and manage the finance system for the congregation. The finance system is the process of raising, managing and dispersing the finances so that the mission and vision of the congregation can be achieved. The Finance Committee typically meets on a quarterly basis to review the church's finances. On a monthly basis financial reports are issued by mail for review by the Finance Committee members. Also on a monthly basis, a summary of the *Building on Faith* Campaign and General Budget is published in "The Wave" for everyone's review. The following are the 2010 committee members:

Ralph Snyder (Finance Chair)

Jeff Bennett (Pastor)

Don Carson (COM Chair)

June Koch (Treasurer/non-voting)

Cecily Browning (Lay Leader)

Gloria Myers (Financial Secretary/non voting)

Carol Harding (SPRC Chair)

Jim Larsen (Church Accountant/non voting)

# Financial Status

## Building on Faith Recap as of 05.26.2010

Project Cost	\$ 3.8 million
Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date (96 pledges)	\$ 1,534,634
Pledges received to date (76%)	\$ 1,173,519
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 128,644
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 12,851
Total received to date	\$ 1,348,346

## General Fund Recap April 2010

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 40,642
Expenses	\$ 47,731
Parsonage Mortgage	\$ 1,722
Net Income/(Deficit)	(\$8,811)

## Building Fund Recap as of May 26, 2010

Income	\$ 19,951
Loan Draws	\$ 0
Expenditures	\$ 3,442
Balance	\$ 221,425

## May 2010 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
5/2	112	106	\$7,318	\$ 2,070	\$ 360
5/9	116	122	\$ 10,440	\$ 9,083	\$ 190
5/16	117	111	\$ 17,896	\$ 5,855	\$ 111
5/23	117	109	\$ 8,144	\$ 2,943	\$ 381
5/30	Will Appear	On June	Report		

## Designated Totals

Building Fund	\$ 221,425
Enhancement Fund	\$ 469
Memorials	\$ 8,780
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2010	\$ 11,395

Owed on Parsonage: \$177,762

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,682,930



*Children's Corner*

*On A Musical Note*

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

Resumes in the Fall

**YCAM**

Grades 6-12

Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

**Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

**Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm



*Vacation Bible School*

*July 19 - 23*

*9:00 - Noon*



*Kingdom Kids*

A BIG THANK YOU to all of our new volunteers - we certainly appreciate all of your help. Kingdom Kids would not be possible without your help. Thank you to **Nancy Noble** - Nancy is our Kingdom Kids Volunteer during the 11:00a.m. worship service. She is there every Sunday and is wonderful with our kids. We are certainly blessed to have such a faithful volunteer.

All kids in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join us each Sunday morning for Kingdom Kids during both the 9:30 and 11:00a.m. worship services. We are still looking for volunteers. If you want to add some fun and excitement to your life please e-mail **Lynn Straughan** at [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.

*C.I.A. (Children In Action) Update*

Our CIA kids have just finished one month of tennis instruction. We will be offering more sports instruction in the fall. CIA will be taking a break for the summer, resuming in the fall.

*BUMC ELC Summer Camp/ 4 Sessions Available*

Session I: June 14 - 25; Session II: June 28 - July 9; Session III: July 19 - 30;

End of Summer Celebration: August 2 - 6

Registration fee: \$50/\$90 family cap (or \$25 for one session)

Each session is Monday through Friday 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Two week sessions are \$150 each

For more information and availability information call: 249-0124



## Round Of Applause



- 👍 For all of our families for making it through another year of school!
- 👍 For Yolie Macon and her efforts coordinating Sunday night dinners
- 👍 For our church family and their support of our summer trips!

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday School Mission Work** Sunday, June 6. During our 11:00a.m. hour in Sunday school we will be making sandwiches to take downtown to feed the homeless. At noon, any student (or church member!) who wishes to join us can head into St Augustine. We are accepting donations of bottles of water (or boxes of juice), gummy fruit snacks, peanut butter, and BREAD. You can drop them by Kelly Minter's office at your leisure.

**Youth Sunday** Sunday, June 13. Join us at both worship services to experience the youth leading us in worship. This year will be different from any other, you will NOT want to miss this!

**Created and Called** Monday, June 14- Tuesday, June 15. \*\*Please note date change!!\* This is an event for Seniors, Juniors, and Sophomores. We will be meeting at noon on Monday at the church, and finish at noon on Tuesday. We will spend that time exploring what it means to be CREATED by God and what He may be CALLING us into in our lives...personally, professionally, and spiritually.

**Beach Days are back!** Beginning on Wednesday, June 16 we will be at Mickler's from 11:00a.m. - 4:00p.m. Come when you can, leave when you must. When you walk up the ramp, look to the left and you will see our group! Bring friends, hang out, have fun...it's summer time again!

**Stock sales are back!** The only stock that is guaranteed to yield returns! Buy "stock" in our mission trips this summer by seeing any of our youth, or talking to Kelly. \$10 donation entitles you to a newsletter upon return, \$30 donation gets you a newsletter AND a postcard, and \$50 gets you a newsletter, postcard, AND a souvenir!

## We have decided on our 2010 mission trip locations!

**Middle School** will be joining TEAMEffort again, this time in **Holden Beach, NC**. Our work projects will include home repair, working with retirement communities, soup kitchens, and children's ministries. It's going to be a great week! **\$420/person, July 29-August 7.**

**High School** will be creating our own mission trip this year! We have decided to take a year and explore the idea of "story". What is the story of your Jesus? What other stories are there in the nation? What happens when we take all of those stories and take time to listen and understand them? We will be answering these questions and more on our **MISSIONS ROAD TRIP** this summer. This trip will be a SUPRISE to the students (parents will be provided a detailed itinerary), and each leg of the trip will be unveiled to the students as they go. Every day (or every other day) or our 8 day trip will be spent in a different town with different people, doing mission work and building relationships across the nation! **July 18-26, 2010, \$520/person.**

## *A Note From Pastor Jeff:*

I'm just back from my spiritual renewal leave. A week of continuing education, a week of vacation, and four weeks of leave add up to six weeks apart from my work in the church. I was talking to one of my sisters about three weeks in. She asked me, "Well, is it working?" I decided not to try to answer that question then. I sensed that this was one of those things you have to see through to the end before you can evaluate it.

Now that my leave is over I'll have to call my sister and tell her, "Yes, it worked." My continuing ed event (Florida Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation) was refreshing, Jill and I enjoyed a wonderful week in Utah and all five of us spent the better part of one week vacationing in Kissimmee. My big at-home project was refinishing our kitchen table and chairs. In between I caught up with some old friends and did some serving here and there but most of the six weeks was invested in doing things that feed my soul. Included were the reading of several good books as well as *The Good Book*, some journaling and more exercise than I've gotten in any six-week period in recent memory. It was a tremendous time of reconnecting with God and with my family!

I much appreciate our Staff Parish Relations Committee granting me this time apart. And my thanks to those of you who were praying for me and my family during these weeks. And to those of you who served and led so well while I was away, thank you.

Ready to get back to work,  
Pastor Jeff



### **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
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